

2015

Alumni Magazine Fall-Winter 2015

Whitworth University

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Recommended Citation

Whitworth University , "Alumni Magazine Fall-Winter 2015" Whitworth University (2015). *Whitworth Alumni Magazine*. Paper 151.
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WHITWORTH

TODAY

Fall/Winter 2015



Sustaining Excellence in Challenging Times

President Beck A. Taylor reflects on
his first five years leading Whitworth

Message from President Beck A. Taylor



I was watching an NFL game not long ago when one of the defensive players on a team that was down by 24 points with two minutes remaining performed a spontaneous and over-the-top herky-jerky dance after tackling his opponent for a loss. I thought, "Really?" Then I remembered that the way to stardom, or so our culture often teaches, is to draw attention to yourself and make sure others know just how very special you are. For the moment, this player had forgotten how horribly his team had played as a unit, the disappointed fans who were left in the stadium, and his fallen comrades who had been removed from the game due to devastating injuries. At that moment, it was really all about him.

In his book *The Road to Character*, author David Brooks prosecutes the "Big Me" culture that seems so pervasive these days. One need look no farther than our politicians, corporate leaders, athletes, celebrities, or the Facebook and Twitter accounts under their names to see how this nefarious culture is undermining many of our society's most enduring and revered traits. Where's humility? Where's self-sacrifice? Where's serving something greater than myself(ie)? To make his point, Brooks cites study after study that report how we perceive ourselves differently than people did in past generations.

For example, compared to high school seniors in 1950, among whom only 12 percent considered themselves to be very important persons, the Gallup Organization reported that 80 percent of students in 2005 saw themselves as such. In another example, recent respondents to so-called narcissism tests scored 30 percent higher at the median than those who were surveyed

only two decades earlier. And in a 1976 survey, when people were asked to rank fame among a list of their life goals, it came in next to last, ranking 15th out of 16 outcomes. Thirty years later, 51 percent of young people ranked fame as one of their top personal goals.

So what is the antidote to the "Big Me" culture? As Whitworth considers this question, we need to look no farther than the person of Christ. Jesus embodied humility and selflessness, sacrifice and service. So as Whitworth equips its graduates to "follow Christ..." we must be attentive to reinforcing moral virtues, quick to point out scriptural imperatives to love neighbor as self, and resolute in leading students through an educational journey that opens their minds and hearts to the needs of others.

Despite the ever-present self-aggrandizement in our world, I see a markedly different and refreshingly sincere posture among Whitworth's students. Perhaps it's because we attract a different kind of student to Whitworth, or perhaps it's because our programs and culture promote a sense of otherness that flows through our students. Regardless, I speak with students each and every day who are curious about how to serve the world in ways that honor their gifts and passions and meet the needs of others. These students are concerned about the world, and not just about their own place in it. They are attempting to follow a "Little Me" life.

And as I travel across the country and meet Whitworth alumni, I again get a sense that they are about things bigger than themselves. They are not just curious about the world, but they also question how they are being summoned to serve it. During September, Whitworth highlighted on its website and through social media a number of alumni and friends who see service as a key attribute to living a summoned life. Their stories were inspiring. The Whitworth Serves campaign, a campaign of service to complement our fund-raising Campaign for Whitworth, asks our graduates to tell us their stories of service so that we can celebrate the ways in which Whitworth has been a contributing factor in their heartfelt attempts to live "Little Me" lives.

To "honor God, follow Christ, and serve humanity" is to refuse to live a "Big Me" existence: It is to embrace a life of service to others, to give credit to others rather than hoard it for ourselves, to live life with humility and grace, and to discern how God might be summoning us into the world. Rather than asking what we can get out of life, we are asking how life is calling us.

That's my prayer for the Whitworth family as we approach the holidays. May we be known as a people of generosity, of service, and of selflessness.

As always, please keep Whitworth in your prayers.

P.S. I wrote this message before I thumbed through this issue's content, which, ironically, features an article on ME and a peek into MY October calendar. Sheesh! Paging Little Me!

Fall/Winter 2015
Vol. 84, No. 2

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Whitworth Today magazine is published twice annually by Whitworth University.

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WHITWORTH TODAY



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Whitworth's newest arrivals on campus are bright leaders with servants' hearts, talented go-getters and resilient overcomers. Here we introduce three freshmen whose inspiring stories represent the remarkable Class of 2019.

12 TO LIVE A MEANINGFUL LIFE

Author Jess Walter, Whitworth's writer-in-residence for spring 2015, worked with student writers in classes and ate pizza with them in the HUB. His experience on campus reminded him that what college students want is "as evergreen as those Whitworth pines."

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On the cover: President Beck A. Taylor and Julie Taylor on Whitworth's Hello Walk.
Photo by Kirk Hirota

[Editor's NOTE]



As of a week ago, it gets dark at 4:45 p.m. here in Spokane. By the time you receive this, we'll have little or no daylight left at 4:15. We're plunging into the dark days of winter in the Inland Northwest, and despite the fact that I enjoy much about the quiet, cold, gloomy season in this part of the world, I'm still looking for warmth and light throughout those sometimes bitter, always short, days.

Those of us who work at Whitworth, and, I'd wager, those who work at most universities, can be grateful that the time of the year when the darkness and the cold are closing in is also the time of the year when things on campus get pretty exciting.

Our athletes are out tearing up the Northwest Conference, our music groups are presenting fall concerts and preparing for Christmas events, our theatre troupes are wrapping up their fall presentations, and our faculty and students are wearing themselves to the very nub pulling together the learning of the fall semester and – in the case of students – registering for spring (can you believe that Commencement Weekend is just five months away?). Each will be more than ready for Christmas Break, when they can kick back, eat themselves silly, see their friends, watch a little football, hang out with their sisters and brothers, and be something other than full-time students for a few weeks. (I imagine that most faculty and staff are looking forward to sharing some of those off-the-clock pastimes, as well.)

But while we're here, and while we're immersed in the first half of Academic Year 2015-16, we seek the light and warmth in other ways. We look for racial reconciliation and peace in a new program, #whitworthunited, that, among other things, brings speakers, performers and programs to our campus; we visit the new fire pit, in front of the HUB, for physical warmth and fellowship and for a few brief moments in the now-neglected and nippy outdoors; we are also warmed during worship at community chapel, Hosanna and AWAKE, sharing with other community members the desires of our hearts and the depth of our faith; we stand in line at the bus stop, hugging our jackets to us as we head off to volunteer as a part of Whitworth Serves. (And when we get to our destination and see the light in the eyes of those who've been waiting for us, we can't help but bask in that glow.) We are bathed in beauty and talent and love and warmth even as we shiver our way down the Hello Walk or, heaven forbid, feel the icicles forming on our noses as we make a quick cross-campus jaunt to McEachran or ride our bikes from class to class.

Both you and I know how this place makes its way into our hearts. What an important part of our lives Whitworth has been and is, and what a welcoming and nurturing home it has become for so many. In this season of "the dark November [and early December] of our souls," as we anticipate the arrival of the one who brings us light and warmth and hope and love, we at Whitworth wish you peace and goodwill. I hope you enjoy this issue of *Whitworth Today*.

Terry Rayburn Mitchell

[Write US!]

We want to know what you think – about *Whitworth Today*, and about Whitworth in general. Send us an email (tmitchell@whitworth.edu) or write us at *Whitworth Today*, University Communications Office, Whitworth University, 300 W. Hawthorne Road, Spokane, WA 99251.

Whitworth Today reserves the right to edit letters for length and/or content.

Pirate Plaudits



Bill Fix Donates Mountaineering Book Collection

In September, Whitworth inaugurated the William C. Fix Mountaineering Collection with a lecture by legendary mountaineer John Roskelley and a reception and display in honor of the collection's namesake. Bill Fix began climbing in 1953 and has scaled mountains worldwide. He donated his extensive collection of mountaineering books, as well as funds to help curate the collection, to Whitworth's Cowles Memorial Library, and he hopes the books will inspire students to climb at home and abroad. Fix and his family are longtime supporters of Whitworth, and he has served on the board of trustees and the board of The Whitworth Foundation for 40 years.



Proud to Be an American

Professor of Physics Kamesh Sankaran, a native of India, became a U.S. citizen on Nov. 3. Sankaran has lived in the United States for more than 22 years, spending 11 years as a student and the subsequent 11-plus teaching at Whitworth. He applied to become a citizen the first day he was eligible. "I thank God for all the ways that He has blessed me through this nation," he says, "and I will strive to use this new phase of my life to live a life worthy of the calling I have received."

Whitworth Is Tops!

For a whopping 16th year in a row, *U.S. News & World Report* ranked Whitworth one of the 10 best of 118 master's-level universities in the 15-state western region of the U.S.; Whitworth also maintained its No. 3 ranking among the best university values in the West. Additionally, *Forbes* once again named Whitworth one of the top 10 private schools in the Pacific Northwest, and for the seventh time in eight years, Colleges of Distinction recognized Whitworth as a top school in the country.

A Trio of Champions

This fall, three Whitworth Athletics teams claimed Northwest Conference titles. The volleyball Pirates won the NWC championship with a 19-7 overall record heading into the 2015 NCAA Division III tournament. Men's soccer (16-1-1) clinched its second consecutive NWC title and an automatic berth to the NCAA tournament; the men have now won eight NWC titles in the past 12 seasons. Women's cross country captured the NWC title, took third place at the NCAA DIII West Region Championships, and earned an at-large berth in the NCAA championships. The football team also enjoyed a stellar season: Finishing with a record of 9-1, the football Bucs received an at-large bid to the Div. III playoffs.



Richard III Goes Corporate

For Whitworth Theatre's fall production, Shakespeare's *Richard III*, Director Diana Trotter re-imagined the play as a contemporary drama of corporate greed through one corrupt businessman's quest for power. Performed by a dapper-suited cast of 25 (including Professor of History Dale Soden, as King Edward IV), *Richard III* raised questions that resonate for our world today.



Sustaining Excellence in Challenging Times

President Beck A. Taylor reflects on his first five years leading Whitworth

By Elizabeth Strauch, '04

Anyone who follows President Beck A. Taylor on Twitter (@becktaylor) or Facebook knows that he is as much an engaged leader as he is engaging on social media. A quick look at his posts over the course of a week will reveal the groups he meets with in the community and across the country, the athletics events he attends, the students who catch him around campus for a quick selfie with the prez, and the family life he honors amid his full schedule (see the following pages to check out what the month of October looks like in the life of Whitworth's president). His colleagues agree that Taylor has proven himself to be driven by big university goals, convicted by Whitworth's deep missional values, and, through it all, a leader who is approachable and unafraid to address challenging questions. Over the past five years, Taylor has shepherded a dynamic strategic plan across campus departments and programs and has helmed a \$100-million fund-raising campaign; characteristically, he attributes Whitworth's success in accomplishing these grand initiatives to its enduring institutional identity and to its faithful community. The Q&A below offers Taylor's perspective on what it means to lead today's Whitworth.

If you could sum up the past five years as a chapter title in Whitworth's history book, what would you call it?

Maybe something like "Sustaining Excellence in Challenging Times." I dream about what it must have been like to be a college president in the 1990s and 2000s. Real family incomes were rising, more and more students were headed for college, people were optimistic about the future, and there was no doubt that higher education was an important part of the American experience. There were challenges then, certainly, but higher education was in its heyday. Since the 2008 financial collapse and the Great Recession, real family incomes have stagnated, the number of high school graduates is declining, optimism has been replaced by growing skepticism, and for the first time in U.S. history, people are questioning the value of a college education. My tenure as president began as the U.S. was clawing its way out of the economic sandpit. As an economist, I could see that we might be in for a rough ride for at least the next five-to-seven years, and as a result, universities like Whitworth couldn't operate as they had the previous 25 years.

Fortunately, Bill Robinson left Whitworth in great shape to tackle these new challenges. So as Whitworth leaned into this new harsh reality, we had to grapple with how to continue the dramatic improvement it had experienced and imagine how to contend with a more austere future. For the most part, I think we've succeeded. Whitworth continues to make important investments in quality while also taking unprecedented steps to maintain accessibility. The road ahead will still be challenging, but I'm optimistic that Whitworth will thrive.

Before you began your work as Whitworth's president, you and your wife, Julie, were able to spend time on Whitworth's campus. How has your understanding of Whitworth developed and evolved in the time you've lived here as a family?

Julie and I learned very quickly that Whitworth's people – students, faculty and staff – are what make Whitworth special. I remember losing my voice when we were on campus being introduced to the community. Julie had to stand in for me with the students. They were so generous! They loved her. I could imagine the students saying, "Anyone married to that woman must be all right!" Our five years at Whitworth have only confirmed how our community loves on each other. We've celebrated and wept with colleagues and students. Our children have grown up on this campus. Our love for God and for one another sustains us through thick and thin. We wouldn't trade that for anything.

When talking to people outside the campus community – leaders, prospective students and families – what are you most proud of when you tell them about Whitworth?

I love to talk about Whitworth's mission. So many people have preconceived notions about Christian higher education. Some think we make sacrifices in academic quality in order to retain our identity. Others think we must be narrow-minded and unwilling to engage with the culture. Whitworth honors both faith and reason, conviction and curiosity, belief and ideas. We honor mind-and-heart education when we commit to what it means to be a true university, and when we love Christ and the world with our hearts, minds, souls and strength. Whitworth is faithful to its mission, and I'm grateful.

"Beck has been the right person at the right time for Whitworth. His business acumen and academic background, coupled with his passion for Whitworth's mission, enable him to lead Whitworth well as we build on our legacy of an education of both mind and heart. Beck's experience and vision for Whitworth were critical as he led the board through the process of developing Whitworth's strategic plan, Whitworth 2021, and his tenacity has been invaluable as we all make sure that plan doesn't just sit on a shelf and collect dust. Whitworth 2021, and the transparency related to our progress toward achieving the goals in the plan, have been models for other universities. I am grateful for Beck's leadership related to both the development of, and the drive to achieve, the important goals in Whitworth 2021. Beyond that, Beck and Julie are wonderful advocates for Whitworth and its students. They are all-in for Whitworth, living out our mission of equipping students, faculty, staff and administration to honor God, follow Christ, and serve humanity."

— Jason Thackston, '92
Chair, Whitworth Board of Trustees

In your inaugural address in October 2010, you said, "Whitworth will not change. And Whitworth must change," but you acknowledged that in order for Whitworth's mission to endure, it would need to be responsive to the changing needs of students, outside developments and economic challenges in higher education. You thus developed Whitworth's strategic plan (Whitworth 2021) to address these issues and more, and the university has made great strides as a result. What do you see as the greatest opportunities for Whitworth to stand out in a sea of private and public universities, and in light of the recent College Scorecard program, what will keep a mind-and-heart education relevant?

Our society never used to question the "relevance" of higher education. That's changing. More than ever, Whitworth must make a compelling case that investments in its mind-and-heart education are not only worth it economically, but, perhaps more important, are necessary to build the future we want. "Relevancy" seems like such a low hurdle when I think about it, but I think people want to be convinced that the experiences young people have on our campus will shape them into women and men of character, intelligence and moral courage. In many ways, that's the essence of Whitworth 2021. Building on a strong foundation, how can Whitworth think anew about how a Christian liberal-arts experience can prepare students for callings that both justify their enormous investments of time and expense and equip them for lives of meaning and service? By any measure, Whitworth is succeeding in delivering those outcomes.

"Beck is an authentic embodiment of the Whitworth mission. As students, we deeply appreciate his preaching at chapel, casually throwing a Frisbee on The Loop, and being faithfully present at student activities from our sporting events to reading stories at the Freshmen Fall Fest. I feel, and students feel, especially cared about whenever we have an opportunity to speak with Beck, and it gives our families a lot of comfort knowing that our institution is led by someone like him. Beck's greatest accomplishment over the past five years may be his path for growth for Whitworth University, but greater still is his commitment to growing student opportunities and potential. Beck brings quality skills of attentive discernment, openness, compassion, and a genuine spirit that is often hard to find in those who hold positions of leadership."

— Justin Botejue, '16, President
Associated Students of Whitworth University

"I think that one of Beck's most important accomplishments is the development and implementation of the strategic plan. He guided the campus community through the development of the plan, welcomed input from the whole campus community on the plan, developed a mechanism for overseeing the plan (the University Council), and has provided consistent leadership in moving us forward in the implementation of the plan. His provision of resources, such as the strategic initiative funds, has also encouraged innovative ideas from across the campus community to move the plan forward."

— Donna Pierce, Associate Professor
of Mathematics & Computer Science
Former Faculty President



How have you grown as a leader during these last five years? What has surprised you?

Serving as Whitworth's president is the highest professional honor of my life. I'm so grateful for the experience. There have been no big surprises, but two things immediately come to mind as I reflect on my experience. The first is how gratifying and fulfilling the work is. My days are long, and they are sometimes challenging, but the privilege and joy of walking this important journey with our students makes it all worth it. It's the best job in the world. The second thing is how much I depend upon others to carry out the university's mission. I've learned that no human being can control everything in a complex organization, nor should he or she, and that I must rely on hundreds of dedicated and talented people to deliver on our promises. I set the tone and the culture and then pass the baton to others. I'll never take those colleagues for granted, but I've learned to lead knowing that there are many people who make Whitworth the special place that it is.

@becktaylor

Highlights from Beck A. Taylor's social media feed



Beck A. Taylor @BeckTaylor • Oct 2
I'll be speaking at the Young Child Expo & Conference today. I'll discuss the impact of poverty on early child development. @ThriveWA



Beck A. Taylor @BeckTaylor • Oct 2
Blessed to speak at the @WhitworthFB chapel tonight. Can't wait to see them in action tomorrow afternoon. #GoBucs!



Beck A. Taylor @BeckTaylor • Oct 5
In Portland today for meeting with institutional presidents of the @NorthwestConf. #GoBucs!



Beck A. Taylor @BeckTaylor • Oct 6
I have the privilege of teaching Core 350 today! Can't wait.



Beck A. Taylor @BeckTaylor • Oct 7
Headed to Nashville for a Lilly Conference. Hope to run into the famous @soulrapzach while I'm there!



Beck A. Taylor @BeckTaylor • Oct 13
Looking forward to a wonderful morning w/ @nytdavidbrooks & nearly 1,000 @Whitworth friends at this morning's President's Leadership Forum.



Beck A. Taylor @BeckTaylor • Oct 14
Thanks to everyone who cheerfully sent me birthday greetings yesterday! I had a wonderful day doing the job I love most. So grateful!



Beck A. Taylor

October 3 • Spokane, WA

Happy Homecoming from the prez-es!



Beck A. Taylor

October 4 • Spokane, WA

Handling the Heisman Trophy at yesterday's game.



Beck A. Taylor

October 10 • Spokane, WA

Go Bucs! Cheering on men's soccer vs. Whitman.





Beck A. Taylor

October 20 • Spokane, WA

Happy to welcome Ron Hansen to @Whitworth, author of fictional works like Atticus & The Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford.



Beck A. Taylor

October 28 • Spokane, WA

Congrats to Eugene "Russell" Bell for his winning costume tonight! Thanks to all of the students who stopped by. We loved all of your awesome costumes.



Beck A. Taylor

October 30 • Spokane, WA

Look who's home from 3 weeks at doggy boot camp! It's Peanut!



Beck A. Taylor @BeckTaylor • Oct 14

We are pleased to welcome @Whitworth's fabulous board of trustees to campus through Friday for meetings. Thanks for all you do!



Beck A. Taylor @BeckTaylor • Oct 17

Looking forward to addressing families at 9 a.m. in Cowles Auditorium to give a brief update on the year. #whitworthfamily



Beck A. Taylor @BeckTaylor • Oct 18

Heading to Atlanta this afternoon to meet with other presidents from the Association of Presbyterian Colleges & Universities.



Beck A. Taylor @BeckTaylor • Oct 19

ATL ✈ SEA ✈ GEG Looking forward to getting home tonight in time to preach tomorrow in chapel. Must top Stephy's "We Are Family" intro!



Beck A. Taylor @BeckTaylor • Oct 26

In Walla Walla this morning for an @icw meeting at sister schools Walla Walla University & @whitmancollege. #TerrificTen



Beck A. Taylor @BeckTaylor • Oct 27

In Seattle, my final stop on this "tour of Washington" road trip. Looking forward to working on early learning issues tomorrow at @ThriveWA.



Beck A. Taylor @BeckTaylor • Oct 29

Thank you to the parent and students who bought lunch for Chloe and me on our daddy-daughter date last Friday at Wasabi. You're the best.

OCTOBER SUMMARY



134
tweets



15,992
miles flown



69
miles run

MEET THE CLASS OF 2019!

Whitworth's freshman students are on the go and eager to grow

By Julie Riddle, '92, and Greg Orwig, '91

This fall, the Whitworth community welcomed 584 freshmen into the fold. They are bright leaders with servants' hearts, talented go-getters and resilient overcomers. Here we introduce three students whose inspiring stories represent the remarkable Class of 2019.

MOST COMMON ACADEMIC INTERESTS:

Pre-Med (54)
Elementary Education (51)
Business Management (44)

Nursing (34)
Engineering/Engineering-Physics (33)
Biology (24)

MOST COMMON NAMES:

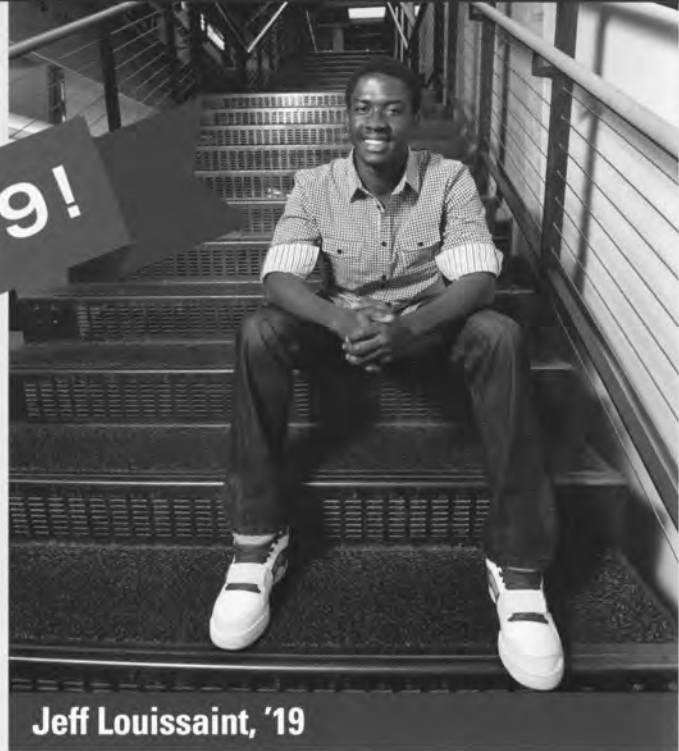
EMILY
Emily (10)
Hannah/Hanna (10)
Lauren (9)
Sarah/Sara (9)

MALE
Jacob (8)
Nicholas (8)
Jonathan/John (6)

MOST COMMON HOMETOWNS:

IN WASHINGTON
Spokane/Spokane Valley: 67
Kennewick: 15
Colbert: 11

OUT OF STATE
Colorado Springs: 6
Missoula, Mont.: 6
Portland, Ore.: 4
La Crescenta, Calif.: 4



Jeff Louissaint, '19

- Is the youngest of eight children; his father passed away in 2011
- Elected class president during his second year of high school, in Haiti
- Founded an organization, "Goumen Pou Sa'w Kwe" (Fight for What You Believe In), to create a healthy and safe environment for the children in his neighborhood. Each summer he organized a soccer tournament so the children could enjoy doing an activity they loved.
- Emigrated from Haiti to Spokane in April 2013, joining his mom and oldest sister; at the time he was fluent in three languages but did not speak English.
- Was a member of Ferris Link Crew, which helps the freshman class transition into Ferris High School
- Was so grateful for the help he received from seasoned English-as-a-second-language students in Spokane that he began helping the newer students, and he continues to support the ESL community
- Is an Act Six Scholar at Whitworth
- Plans to study pre-engineering and eventually to earn a civil-engineering degree so that he can help rebuild his home country and support his family

"I am pretty much enjoying everything here at Whitworth. I have really enjoyed Tradition Week, and the classes and intramural sports. The professors are always available to help students however they possibly can."

"I know poverty. I know what being in need means. I also have learned that education is the best path out of poverty and can lead me to success. When you want to succeed as much as you want to breathe, you will be successful."

CLASS OF
2019
PROFILE

Total freshman applications:

4,050

Enrollment:

584

Average GPA:

3.74



Andrea (Andie) Rupke, '19

- Calls Olympia, Wash., home
- Took part in a variety of activities at Tumwater High School, including volleyball, theatre productions, Young Life, and Renaissance, a leadership program
- Participated in mission trips with her youth group to Uganda, Africa, and Tijuana, Mexico, and to rural areas such as Lakeview, Ore., and Potlatch, Idaho
- Her parents, Ron, '89, and LeAnn (Coumbs, '90) Rupke, met at Whitworth
- Attends college with her sister, Katie Rupke, '16, an accounting and business management double-major
- Majoring in English, secondary education track
- Vocational missionary work has always been a passion, and she would love to use her teaching degree as a vessel for missionary work

"I chose to attend Whitworth because I grew up hearing amazing stories about Whitworth. Having parents who met at and graduated from Whitworth is always fun when you get to hear their great stories. I also love Spokane and the activities to enjoy here. But I truly love how Whitworth focuses on a mind-and-heart education. That was very important to me."

"Tradition was one of the coolest experiences I have ever had! There was something unique about bonding with other freshmen who were experiencing the exact same emotions as I was."



Nick Healey, '19

- Hails from Naples, Fla.
- A car accident in 2013 led to the amputation of one of his legs
- Heard about Whitworth through Young Life
- Attended a Whitworth Honors Colloquium Scholarship competition and won a full-tuition scholarship
- Speech communication & theology double-major; plans also to earn a Certificate in Ministry
- Participates in men's chorus, Young Life, Hosanna and chapel
- Plans to work in ministry after graduating

"The car accident turned my family around. My parents realized how short life could be, and my dad came back into my family's lives. The accident brought my sisters, mom and me together again. We started spending time together and sharing life with each other. Two of my sisters and my dad ended up getting to know Jesus (which makes the whole thing worth it)."

"I really appreciate Hosanna (a weekly student-led worship service). It's so nice to stop studying for an hour to praise God, and it's comforting seeing more than 100 of my peers worshipping. None of my friends at the University of Florida get to experience what I experience here. I also appreciate the relationships I am already forming with my professors. The education I am receiving is incredible, and I value greatly the friendships that I am building."

Average SAT:
1765
(national average: 1490)

Countries
represented:
16

States
represented:
21

Percentage from
underrepresented populations:
27%

International
students:
11

To Live a Meaningful Life



The journal arrived in the mail last May, at the end of my term as writer-in-residence at Whitworth.

The cover art features a familiar intersection with two road signs, DO NOT ENTER and ONE WAY, signs subtly and comically at odds with one another. (Do not enter, but if you must . . . could you, maybe, you know, go this way?) Just past the signs, what looks like the North Spokane Y is an unfocused blur, the world beyond a mystery.

It's a terrific image for what's inside – the writing of 11 smart, searching students from Nicole Sheets' EL 444 Autobiographical Writing class. That image asks you to remember what it's like to be 21 or 22, on the verge of embarking on your post-college life, staring out at a blurry, contradictory world.

I thought of that journal, and of my time at Whitworth, recently, as I drove my 18-year-old daughter to Oregon to begin her college career. It's a proud, wistful moment, dropping your kid off at school. But as a parent, I tend to indulge in one of two fallacies at such moments: 1) I assume that my kids' experiences will be exactly like mine (Put down the beer bong!), or 2) I assume my kids' experiences will be nothing like mine. (I don't know what Tinder is, but stay off it!)

During my visit to Whitworth – speaking on campus, meeting faculty and administrators, working with writers in the classes of professors Thomas Caraway and Nicole Sheets, eating pizza with students in George's Place – I was reminded that, behind those implacable faces, what college students want is as evergreen as those Whitworth pines.

It's simply this: to live a meaningful life.

In this way, the students I met reminded me of the people I most admired when I was in college – perceptive, inquisitive, compassionate. But they also seemed more mature and self-aware than the people I remember from college – than the self I remember. They were more certain of their place in the world, even if that world is more blurry, more uncertain.

We spend a lot of time debating higher education. The cost of college has gone up more than 500 percent in the past 30 years, contributing to a scandalous inequality in America. Meanwhile, the handwringing over what a university should entail has only intensified. What is college: classical education or career preparation? On the same day you might read an op-ed piece arguing that American universities are too precious and esoteric, another will argue that proud institutions are pandering to business and consumer interests.

In the end, all that consternation falls away, though, and the big question is this: What kind of adult human beings are we making behind the brick and ivy?

That's what I loved about reading the EL 444 poems, stories and essays. I recalled the students behind this work, the human beings behind their words.

Here are students poetically exploring dreams and confronting the paradox of human nature:

Everything about me is present.
Inhaling every part of me that is both good and bad
even though I would rather the bad not be there.
It wouldn't be true if it were any other way. (Terra Ojeda)

Writing fiction grappling with the future of humankind:

They're losing touch. They're forgetting – everything humanity
was and everything it could be. (Henry Stelter)

Using something as unlikely as fan fiction to question originality and courage in art:

Something stops me from sharing the passion and enthusiasm I
have ... making me hide a part of who I am. (Bekah Bresee)

And crafting a lyrical essay about the effects of time (and hubris) on a military installation:

At the age of eight, I was still under the impression that
battles had been won and lost here, that the dead walked
the paths with us ... Nature is fighting the battle now,
and the bunkers are losing. (Kyler Lacey)

Piece by piece, what emerges from this journal is a lovely report from a remote outpost: This was life at Whitworth University, in Spokane, Washington, in the year 2015.

The Ponderosa pine is known to be quite playful, and fills its
days with a gentle oscillation that sprinkles the ground with
needles and pinecones. This is how trees speak with one
another – not with utterances, but through movement ...
Swaying with ardent passion, the trees look like Shakers during
worship, bowing at the altar of a higher power. (Nick Avery)

A unique sense of place cuts across essays about cultural fascinations:

The purpose of Batman isn't just to fight crime. It's to remind us
that humans can be extraordinary ... Spokane is far different
from Gotham. It requires a different Batman. (Hailee Meyers)

And it informs pieces that comically remind us that some experiences are universal:

Welcome to the family; don't you worry, you only have to deal
with these people for the rest of your life. (Catherine Tucker)

I could even craft a collection of witty, intelligent aphorisms from these poems and stories and essays, a guide to a smart, healthy life:

Trouble's no fun if you don't share it with someone. (John Reed)

I'd like to tell you
that your hair will soar
with the wind in gentle rhythms
but most likely it will end up
stuck in your eye. (Hollie Stienmetz)

Like anything else in this world, coffee can be mistaken for
identity if you love it with too much ardor. (Alyssa Olds)

I arrived at Whitworth University in the spring of 2015 flush with my own concerns and expectations, with old ideas about the place. I'd just come off a busy stretch and sometimes had trouble slowing down. Yet every time I pulled onto that beautiful campus – book-bagged students plying the trails and roads – I found myself instantly reflective. I've lived in Spokane my entire life, and some of the best people I know – alumni, professors, writers – are part of the Whitworth community. I've had great readings there, delivered lectures, played pickup basketball.

But sometimes we take the most familiar things for granted. We stop seeing them for what they are, or we don't always see how they change and grow.

A quick story: Back in 1982, at my high school college night, I met a representative from what was then Whitworth College. I was instantly charmed, and I brought home a brochure, but my dad, who worked at Kaiser Aluminum and had three kids to put through college, said private school was too expensive. My high school counselor agreed; as a "B" student from a lower middle-class family, I couldn't expect much in the way of scholarships. The message for me was clear: Private college isn't for people like you.

I ended up at a great state school, Eastern Washington University. The day I drove myself to Eastern was the first time I'd ever seen a four-year college.

Since then, as a writer, I have lectured or been the visiting writer at dozens of prestigious colleges, including Ivy League schools so exclusive that my best chance of getting in would have been as a custodian. I keep a handy chip on my shoulder for such experiences.

But last spring, at Whitworth, my old class-warrior chip was the first thing I abandoned. I couldn't have felt more welcomed, more at home. I met first-generation college students, students on scholarship, students from small towns that make Spokane seem like Paris. (Okay, maybe not Paris.) I met students who reminded me of the person I was, and students I would love my children to know. It's great seeing Whitworth all grown up: sophisticated, welcoming, and building all of those great human beings. Of course, there's nothing better than having your expectations exceeded. In fact, there's a poem in the 444 journal about that too, by Chris MacMurray, and it only seems right to give one of those talented young writers the last word:

The most beautiful things
are those that find us
when we least expect to be found.

Jess Walter, who served as a writer-in-residence during spring semester 2015, is the author of six novels, a collection of short stories, and a nonfiction book. His books have been published in 26 countries and translated into 28 languages, and he is a former National Book Award finalist.



2015 Smithsonian interns and Honors Program Director Doug Sugano (L-R): Thomas Hull, Katie Cunningham, Madison Garner, Sugano, Hannah Norris and Stacey Moo stand before the "The Castle," the Smithsonian's iconic building, in Washington, D.C.

Learning in 'The Nation's Attic'

Whitworthians make the most of Smithsonian internships

As Whitworth's honors program picks up steam, students within the program are gaining access to programs at some of the world's most prestigious scholarly venues. (See Page 19's article on Whitworth students attending Oxford University's semester-long Scholarship & Christianity Program, in Oxford, England.) One such program is the Smithsonian Institution's internship program.

Most academics and students are familiar with the name of the Smithsonian, though they may be a little hazy on the details of what the institution *does*. One description from the Smithsonian's site says of the institution, "The Smithsonian, established in 1846 'for the increase and diffusion of knowledge,' is a group of museums and research centers administered by the U.S. government. Originally organized as the United States National Museum and termed 'the nation's attic' for its eclectic holdings of 138 million items, the institution's Washington, D.C., nucleus of 19 museums, nine research centers, and the National Zoological Park – many of them historical or architectural landmarks – is the largest such complex in the world."

In a nutshell, the institution is focused on "shaping the future by preserving our heritage, discovering new knowledge, and sharing our resources with the world."

Whitworth has set about placing interns with the Smithsonian program, helping to prepare undergraduate honors students for their post-graduate pursuits. Honors Program Director Doug Sugano says of the decision to work with the Smithsonian, "I'm impressed with three aspects of these internships – first, that our students can bypass the national selection process and we can select our own students for these prestigious internships; second, I could see the care that the Smithsonian supervisors took in matching our students to their respective internship skills and jobs; and, finally, all of the Smithsonian supervisors were passionate about their jobs, caring about their interns, and genuinely helpful people."

This year, Whitworth sent five students to complete Smithsonian internships: Stacey Moo, '15, interned at the Freer and Sackler Galleries, the Smithsonian's two museums of Asian art, and worked for the undersecretary for history, art and culture; Madison Garner, '16, worked for

The Smithsonian Associates, the fundraising arm of the Smithsonian; Thomas Hull, '15, interned with the Smithsonian Gardens, which the institution calls its "outdoor museums"; and Katie Cunningham, '16, and Hannah Norris, '15, worked for the Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage, which offers internships in cultural anthropology, folklore, ethnomusicology, museum studies, arts administration, graphic and web design, marketing and library science.

Cunningham made the most of her Smithsonian adventure. An English major, she embarked upon her Smithsonian internship during her junior year, in Jan Term 2015. Inspired by her interest in Asian-American identity and culture, the center asked Cunningham to create a multimedia storytelling project about Asian-American identity for the Smithsonian's larger *Our American Journey* project. Cunningham also wrote a related article, "Defining Ourselves: Multiracial Identity for Modern-Day Asian Americans," which was published on the website of the Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage.

"This experience showed me how passionate I am about individual stories and personal identity," Cunningham says. "I spent eight hours a day in the office working on this project, and yet when I went home, I still wanted to research the topic. In the end, I was able to take all of the very different stories and put them together in a coherent, individual and interesting narrative."

The Smithsonian atmosphere was just as appealing to Cunningham as the content she explored. "It was great to see a workplace that prioritized cultural appreciation, and where people took so much joy from each other and their work," she says.

"I'm grateful this internship gave me the opportunity to explore that freedom and to realize I can adapt really well to it."

Web extra: To read Cunningham's article, visit www.whitworth.edu/whitworthtoday.

A Heart for Students

Mandeville departs after a fruitful quarter-century

After 25 years serving the best interests of Whitworth students and the campus community, Vice President for Student Life and Dean of Students Dick Mandeville stepped down at the end of the summer.

Mandeville came to Whitworth in 1990, and helped shape Whitworth's student-life and residence-life programs into some of the best in the country. He was appointed V.P. of student life and dean of students in 2012, and he shepherded his division through a number of changes and improvements during his three years in that position. These include his hiring of dynamic new leaders in several key positions, including a new associate dean for compliance and community standards; a new director of residence life; and a new director for student diversity, equity & inclusion. Perhaps one of his greatest achievements while serving as vice president was developing a new and innovative support infrastructure for student success.

"One of the things I feel very good about is our student leadership program in the residence halls," Mandeville said in September. "I think that it reflects the values of the institution well and it also adds a focus on Whitworth's mission."

Mandeville added that he will miss watching students grow through leadership opportunities and through healthy relationships in our residence halls.

"When I interviewed here," he said, "I met with a small group of students and I remember thinking that if these are the kinds of students this place attracts, this is going to be a great place to be. And it



has been. Our students are remarkable and talented, and I think that we've done a great job of creating a place for them to grow into their best selves. It has been exciting work."

The campus held a going-away party for Mandeville a few days before his departure, and faculty, staff and students from across the campus had the opportunity to thank him and to let him know how fondly he will be remembered.

"Throughout Dick's tenure," says Assistant Director of Alumni & Parent Relations Josh Cleveland, '01, "he mentored hundreds of students, supervised thousands, and influenced many more through his servant leadership and care. As such, it is difficult to measure the influence Dick has had on generations of Whitworth students and alumni. He leaves a legacy of grace and truth, trusting students to make good choices and then kindly and firmly redirecting them when better choices could have been made.

A consummate student-development professional, Dick embodied the spirit of challenging and supporting students while *letting good things run wild* (his words). Student life at Whitworth is what it is because of Dick's leadership, care, compassion and commitment."

Mandeville's successor for the 2015-16 academic year is Interim Vice President for Student Life Rhosetta Rhodes, '99. She, too, appreciated working with Mandeville. "No one can speak or translate student life to the general campus community better than Dick," Rhodes says. "He knows student development, and his practice resulted from that knowledge. He made friends out of students, faculty and staff. He will be missed."

This article features content from Sarah Haman's article in the Oct. 1, 2015, issue of The Whitworthian.



Ph.D. (photo left), Distinguished Professor of Faith & Culture and director of intercultural and indigenous studies at George Fox Seminary, who lectured on "America Before Columbus and Now"; ASWU sponsored a number of cultural events in support of Hispanic Heritage Month; Dena R. Samuels, Ph.D., director of the Matrix Center for the Advancement of Social Equity and Inclusion at the University of Colorado, presented an Inclusive University Classroom lecture, "Minimizing Implicit Bias in Educational Settings"; and Justice Mary Yu lectured on "Breaking the Barriers: Being the First Latina, Asian, LGBT Justice on the Washington State Supreme Court."

Hashtag: Unity

Whitworth intensifies its enduring commitment to diversity and inclusion

In the wake of an unfortunate pre-academic-year racial incident involving several students, Whitworth President Beck A. Taylor created a new initiative, #whitworthunited, to further address the issue of racism in the Whitworth community and beyond.

#whitworthunited is a broad-based effort to educate, to inform, to encourage dialogue, and to inspire Whitworthians to "seek the unity of Christ through racial reconciliation on our campus and in our

community," Taylor says. To demonstrate the university's commitment to these efforts, he has created a significant new pool of resources to support the goals of the program. Taylor has also enlisted top administrators and ASWU President Justin Botejue, '16, to help lead the #whitworthunited campaign.

The initiative has hit the ground running. Whitworth recently welcomed as its Native American Heritage Month guest speaker the Rev. Randy Woodley,

Associate Vice President for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Larry Burnley, one of the administrators chosen by Taylor to lead the #whitworthunited effort, says of the potential of the new initiative, "It can benefit all Whitworthians as we build our individual and collective capacity to engage more effectively the human family across multiple dimensions of human difference. Our commitment and goal are always to better equip our graduates to 'honor God, follow Christ, and serve humanity.'"



Celebrating 40 years of Study and Service in Central and Latin America

Nearly 100 alumni, faculty and guests returned to campus July 10-12 to celebrate the 40th anniversary - and the ongoing legacy - of the Central and Latin America Study Program. The program, formed in 1975 and sustained for many years by the visionary leadership of Associate Professor of Sociology/Chaplain Emeritus Ron Frase, continues to grow and evolve today, allowing students to travel, study and serve in Central America. In January 2016, a group of current Whitworth students will travel to Central America as the latest ambassadors and beneficiaries of this life-changing program.



The Pit and the Pergola

Campus additions provide warmth, light, beauty for community members

Whitworth's new fire pit, located in front of the HUB, is getting lots of use – and, come spring, the just-assembled pergola in the Westminster Courtyard will provide an enjoyable plant paradise for those making their way to their English classes.

The fire pit was donated by Whitworth Trustee Gary Hopkins and his family. Gerry Gemmill, outgoing vice president for finance & administration, calls it “a gathering place where the students, if they want to have a little heat, can sit outside in a pretty place and talk.” It was completed last spring, and a number of fall events, including Homecoming Weekend, made use of the new venue.

On Nov. 7, artist David Shelton, a friend of Whitworth English Professor Leonard Oakland and of the university, reassembled in Westminster Courtyard the pergola he built for the English department. Shelton, brother of writer/director Ron Shelton (*White Men Can't Jump*, *Bull Durham*), also a friend of the university, built the pergola at his home in California and transported it to Spokane for reassembly. The structure is named The Pam Parker Pergola, for the Whitworth English professor who has provided the energy and much of the funding to make it a reality.

“This pergola will provide a visual backstop, raising the view to the mountains, while at the same time welcoming poets, musicians, and perhaps jugglers onto the stage of the grassy bowl we designed in 2008,” Oakland says. The department welcomes contributions to pay the remaining \$6,000 cost of the pergola, as well as the gravel and vines that will help to make it another Whitworth showpiece. If you'd like to donate, contact Oakland (loakland@whitworth.edu), Parker (pparker@whitworth.edu), or Tad Wisenor, '89 (twisenor@whitworth.edu).

Metheny Magic

Pat Metheny, who recently won Best Guitarist honors in *Downbeat* magazine's 80th readers' poll, joined the acclaimed Whitworth Jazz Ensemble at the university's fall jazz concert. A 20-time Grammy winner, Metheny was working regularly with the best jazz musicians in Kansas City by the time he was 15. He has since enjoyed a long, mega-successful career and has gained a reputation as an innovator and incorporator of new technologies into his music. Jazz Ensemble Director Dan Keberle writes of the concert's guest performer, “Metheny reinvented the traditional jazz-guitar sound for a new generation of players.”





A Century of Service

The Whitworth Auxiliary celebrated the 100th anniversary of its founding and a century of supporting Whitworth students with a festive gathering on Oct. 10. Members were honored with a presentation by Whitworth History Professor Dale Soden; a performance by the Whitworth Chamber Singers, led by Director of Choral Studies Marc A. Hafsø; a word from Whitworth President Beck A. Taylor; and a video presentation of reminiscences by several of the most long-standing members of the auxiliary. The highlight of the morning was the inaugural awarding of the Whitworth Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship, to Melanie Williams, '17. The auxiliary has donated approximately \$450,000 to Whitworth during its 100 years of serving the university.

Brooks Shares Insights at President's Leadership Forum

New York Times columnist and best-selling author David Brooks was the featured speaker at Whitworth's fall President's Leadership Forum, appearing before a large audience at the Spokane Convention Center and spending time on campus in a Q&A session with Whitworth President Beck A. Taylor. Taylor, who calls Brooks "one of the preeminent social commentators of our time," invited his guest's perspectives on issues of both national and international import. Brooks, whose *NYT* column appears every Tuesday and Friday, is also a regular commentator on the *PBS NewsHour*, NPR's *All Things Considered*, and NBC's *Meet the Press*. His latest book is *The Road to Character*.



Britworthians

Whitworth honors students take advantage of rigorous Oxford program

Honors students at Whitworth are now being presented with a unique and appealing opportunity: the Scholarship & Christianity Program in Oxford, England. Under the leadership of Professor of English Doug Sugano and Professor of World Languages & Cultures Bendi Benson Schrambach, Whitworth's quickly growing honors program has recently begun to offer the Oxford semester, a particularly enriching experience that combines off-campus study with one of the most stimulating academic venues in the world, at Oxford University. Two students attended SCIO last year, two are enrolled this year, and Whitworth anticipates ongoing – and increasing – interest in this unique program.

Oxford describes the SCIO as a program “designed specifically for students seeking an academically robust program. In tutorials, students meet one-on-one with acclaimed Oxford scholars (often including widely published authors, historians, former international ambassadors, and other celebrated thinkers) to go head-to-head on subjects within the disciplines of history, literature, languages, philosophy, musicology, art, science, and more.”

While the program is open to all majors, a student must have a GPA of at least 3.7 to apply. “Students involved in the Oxford program have reported the rich intellectual challenge of regular meetings with Oxford scholars for whom they write frequent papers and with whom they meet to discuss ideas,” says Associate Provost for Faculty Development Kathleen Storm, who has also been an integral part of bringing the program to Whitworth.



Luke W. Olsen, '16 (above), who attended “Hilary Term” at Oxford this year, explains a bit about how the program unfolded for him:

“The eight-week Oxford term was followed by another six weeks or so of independent research, seminars, and a course on British culture and history and its interaction with a chosen discipline (I chose theology). During regular term I took two tutorials: My primary tutorial (every week) was Christian Moral Reasoning, and my secondary tutorial (every other week) was Philosophical Theology.

“Essentially, you meet regularly, one-on-one, with an Oxford tutor/professor to discuss a previously assigned research question and reading list. Then you have a week or two weeks to read and write an essay in response to this question. At the next meeting you read and defend your position as the professor deconstructs and

challenges your essay. Almost no time is spent in class. Rather, most of my time was spent in libraries reading and writing in preparation for these tutorials. I did, though, attend university lectures and seminars that were relevant to my studies.”

When asked what convinced him to apply for the Oxford program, Olsen says, “I was drawn to participate because I wanted to challenge myself. The Oxford system emphasizes research and autonomy. I think it matured me as a student, as I began to see myself as a thinker who not only consumes scholarship but who contributes to it, as well.”

Storm adds, “Students talk about the energizing experience of focusing on intellectual growth without constant attention to grades and about growing to love learning for its own sake. They’ve described the inspiring experience of life in community where they’ve been stretched and supported academically. Immersion in scholarship at Oxford has changed their lives.”

Olsen mentions another advantage of the Whitworth/Oxford connection. “I was especially thankful for Whitworth’s emphasis on faith and learning, the mind and the heart,” he says. “We see this commitment reflected in the person and teaching of Augustine, for whom learning and thinking about God could never be separated from a deep faith and a ‘burning love.’ Oxford’s motto is *dominus illuminatio mea*: The Lord is my light. I saw this inscription all over the town. This belief informs and guides our commitment to faith and learning. Not all institutions share this commitment. I was thankful, at Oxford, that I had been trained by Whitworth professors who do.”

If you know a student who might be interested in, and eligible for, the Scholarship & Christianity Program in Oxford, England, please direct him or her to the Whitworth Honors Program website, www.whitworth.edu/honors, or to one of the professors mentioned in this article.

Economics Professor, Entrepreneur, Alumnus Joins Board



Whitworth recently welcomed a new member to the university's board of trustees. David Nelson, '71, is a professor of economics at Western

Washington University. In 1985, he received his Ph.D. from the University of Oregon, and in 2005 he was awarded the Distinguished Teaching Fellow by the W.W.U. College of Business and Economics; in 2009 he was named MBA Professor of the Year. He helped launch the Western Washington University Christian Faculty Forum, the purpose of

which is to support, encourage and equip Christian faculty to fulfill their roles as Christ's followers and university professors. In recognition of his leadership, the faculty ministry of Campus Crusade for Christ presented him with its Erick Nilson Achievement Award.

As founder and president of Finance & Resource Management Consultants, Inc., Nelson works with study groups of business owners to help them improve their businesses. FRMC currently assists more than 40 study groups involving executives from more than 250 companies in the petroleum-marketing, convenience-store, and wholesale industries. These firms, together, sell approximately 10 percent of the fuel sold in the U.S.

"I've known David for nearly 20 years," says Whitworth President Beck A. Taylor.

"Not only is he an accomplished academic leader; he is also a successful business owner and entrepreneur. And as an alum, he knows first-hand how a mind-and-heart education can prepare someone for a life of service. I'm excited about all that he brings to the board."

Nelson and his wife, Lynne, a Christian counselor in Bellingham, met at Whitworth and have been married for more than 40 years. They have four children and four grandchildren, and they have sponsored many children in developing countries. Nelson served on the boards of Childcare Worldwide and Hillcrest Chapel, and he is currently a member of the board of the Washington Council on Economic Education. The Nelsons attend First Presbyterian Church of Bellingham.



Heritage Gallery Welcomes Winning Class of 2016

The Whitworth University Heritage Gallery Hall of Fame inducted Warren Lashua, '59, Serena Fadel Wang, '04, and John Rasmussen, '96 (highlighted above), during Whitworth's Homecoming Weekend. Wang is an eight-time individual Northwest Conference swimming champion and seven-time All-American who took third at nationals in the 400-yard individual medley with a time that still stands as a record in the NWC; Rasmussen, also a premier swimmer, was a six-time All-American and the NAIA national champion in the 200-yard breaststroke; and Lashua represented the Pirates as both a national-caliber shot putter and a football star who set a never-broken conference record by seizing 11 interceptions in 1959.



(L-R) Julie Taylor and President Beck A. Taylor join Provost and Executive Vice President Caroline Simon and Associate Professor of Chemistry Deanna Ojennus at the announcement of the Hugh Johnston gift to the university.

The Generosity of a Quiet Man

Hugh Johnston, Ph.D., a longtime Whitworth chemistry professor, was also an avid archeologist, Egyptologist and stamp collector who spent many years in plastics research before he began his career in academia, at Whitworth, in 1957. He taught chemistry (and married his Whitworth colleague Mary Boppell, Ph.D.) during his first 16 years at the then-college, spending his final 12 years on the staff as director of development services. After his retirement, he volunteered in the archive departments of both Whitworth and the Northwest Museum of Arts & Culture. Who knew that this humble, modest man planned to donate a substantial estate to the university where he worked for much of his life?

In October, Whitworth announced that Johnston, who died earlier this year at nearly 95, had left Whitworth a gift of \$2.05 million. Whitworth President Beck A. Taylor announced that with this gift, the university will establish the Hugh W. Johnston Endowed Professorship of Chemistry and will initiate an interdisciplinary research fund. Because of Johnston's generosity, the university will place \$550,000 into this endowed fund, moving Whitworth more than halfway toward its \$1 million goal.

"To receive these gifts from Hugh's estate means a great deal to the university," Taylor says. "That a former faculty member would love this place so much and be so generous with his resources is an encouragement to all of us."

Thank You!



Big changes are under way for the current music building, which will soon become the Cowles Music Center at Whitworth.

Cowles Music Center on Track for 2016 Completion

Thanks to the generosity of numerous families and foundations, construction work on the Cowles Music Center began in earnest over the summer. While fund-raising is still being completed for the new pianos and other equipment needed for the building, the \$13.5 million required for the facility itself has been given or pledged.

Whitworth's music faculty members anticipate the opening of the new facility with enthusiasm. "In addition to our excitement about gaining needed space for our existing program," says Associate Professor of Music Benjamin Brody, '98, "I am excited for the new opportunities that the Cowles Music Center will provide Whitworth to serve the greater Spokane community through performances, master classes, music festivals, and other educational programming."

You can track the progress of this significant capital project by viewing the construction webcam at www.whitworth.edu/125/musicprogram.

By the Numbers How our \$100-million goal adds up:

\$18.6
million raised
Endowment
(\$30 million goal)

\$22.6
million raised
Facilities
(\$23 million goal)

\$18.1
million raised
Programs
(\$20 million goal)

\$12.3
million raised
Bequests
(\$27 million goal)

Raised: \$71.6 million

Total: \$100 million



What Works vs. What Lasts: A Conversation with Bob Goff

By Tad Wisenor, '89

On a Sunday afternoon last May, five people gathered for a meal and conversation with Bob Goff, a bestselling author, the founder of Restore International, and Whitworth's 2015 commencement speaker. Goff's *New York Times* best-selling book *Love Does* encourages readers to live a lifestyle that fiercely seeks out ways of showing love. He also pioneers the vision for Restore International, a nonprofit human-rights organization he founded in 2003. When Goff speaks he commands a room, no matter the size, and this group of five was captivated, amused and challenged (as was the Spokane Arena audience at commencement a few hours later). Following are excerpts from that conversation.

On Trusting God

"Just trust that God's so big that He's got this thing. I don't have this big faith but I'm a very trusting guy. And I trust God, and He's got it. He isn't worried about all the stuff we're worried about. We spend so much time coming up with a backup plan that we never get to our purpose. You never just do your purpose, because you're so busy hedging all the bets."

On Making Room in Your Life

"Every Thursday I quit something. I was on a board of directors, and they're changing the whole world. They're great, but I called up and I quit. They asked,

'How come?' And I'm like, 'Because it's Thursday.' You don't need a reason. When you were a kid you didn't need a reason for everything. You didn't have to put spin on it. You just quit. So what I do is try to make a little bit of room in my life, trusting that God will set terrific things and people into it."

On Words of Correction

"Instead of instructing people and correcting them, I literally charge myself \$500 per word of correction. On your smartphone app, you can transfer money to a bank account. If I'm tempted to straighten somebody out, I just say as

much as I can afford. I want it to be important, because 500 bucks is a ticket to Maui. I think some of these things we're saying to one another are costing us so much more in our relationships than we realize."

On Trusting Those Who Have Failed

"For me (in high school), everything was shop. I had one English class. Everything else was shop. My wood-shop teacher, tragically, had only two fingers on his right hand. And so when he was showing us how to use the table saw on the first day of class, he said that when you get close to the blade, you have to use a push stick. I trusted him because he had apparently failed – either once big or several times small. What if we trust people more when they fail, and not less?"

On What Works vs. What Lasts

"I've had all kinds of great ideas that didn't work. I've had a bunch of stupid ideas that did work. So that's not the dashboard of metrics I'm following. Remember pet rocks? Those worked! But then everybody figured out it's a rock in a box for 20 bucks. So while it worked, it didn't last. I've done so many things in my life that have worked, but I've done just a few that will last. So I have to ask, 'Is this going to last, or is it just another thing on the pile that worked?'"

On Where He Goes to Church

"People ask me all the time, 'Where do you go to church?' And I say, 'Our church.' I'm claiming dibs on all of them. Some of them wear robes, and some of them wave their arms, and some of them are quiet, and some of them are loud, and some play the banjo, and some play the harp. That's our church. I'm just claiming all of them. Wouldn't that be an awesome thing to quit on Thursday? All the churches, change your names to 'Ours.' And so when people ask you where you go to church, you'd be like, 'Ours.' And they'd be like, 'You, too?' There'd be something really beautiful about that."

Web extra: To read more of this conversation with Bob Goff, visit www.whitworth.edu/whitworthtoday.



College: Consumption or Character?

By Patricia Bruininks, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Psychology,
and Nathan King, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Philosophy

Psychology and philosophy have made headlines lately – and not in a good way. At a recent campaign meeting, presidential hopeful Jeb Bush said, “Universities ought to have skin in the game. When a student shows up, they ought to say, ‘Hey, that psych-major deal, that philosophy-major thing, that’s great, it’s important to have liberal arts ... but realize, you’re going to be working [at] a Chick-fil-A.’”

Set aside the fact that *Bush himself has a liberal arts degree*. Focus instead on the assumption that lies behind his remark, and similar ones on the Democratic side. The assumption is that the main reason students should go to college is that it will enable them to get a job.

We (a psychologist and a philosopher) disagree. To be sure, improving one’s job prospects is one of the many good reasons to pursue a college education. And of course professors have a duty to help their graduates find gainful employment. We and our colleagues work diligently to this end. But the exclusive vocational focus of much recent education-talk is problematic for at least two reasons. First, it encourages a consumerist approach to education, with negative psychological effects. Second, it obscures a grander vision of college: that college is for the development of character.

The culture in which we live encourages us to see ourselves as consumers as much as to identify with being American or Christian. This has led to commodifying parts of our culture that were not originally seen as goods to be traded for money,

including animals (factory farms), people (sweatshops and sex trafficking), college sports, and education. It has also led to what Benjamin Barber refers to as the “infantilization” of adults by emphasizing easy over hard, simple over complex, and fast over slow. Nuanced arguments regarding important social issues are replaced with simplistic thinking that appeals to our baser instincts. And immediate access to everything outweighs psychological health that comes with a slower-paced lifestyle.

This infantilization affects education by discouraging academic rigor in favor of courses that ensure an “A.” It also places the importance of individual outcomes over citizenship. This, combined with an increased focus on things that can be measured (e.g., GPA, percentage of students who seek post-baccalaureate education within a year after graduation), steers us to value potential annual income over potential human development.

If college isn’t solely for job preparation, then what is it for? There are many answers here, some better than others. We suggest that any complete answer must include this: *College is for the development of intellectual character*. Job training isn’t enough: graduates rarely remain in the same job for a lifetime. Knowledge isn’t enough: in many disciplines, today’s knowledge is bound for tomorrow’s dustbin. Skill development is better – especially when the skills are highly transferrable (e.g., logical reasoning and writing). But to prepare graduates with just a set of skills is still not enough – skills can be misapplied

in efforts to obscure unjust causes, or to denigrate one’s opponents. What is sorely needed is education that produces graduates who are curious, creative, open-minded, fair-minded, humble, intellectually courageous, persevering, intellectually careful and wise.

These traits may be labeled “intellectual virtues.” They are traits Whitworthians already value. (To see this, visit the Whitworth 2021 strategic plan online.) Such virtues are important for several reasons. First, the exercise of intellectual virtue tends to result in knowledge and true beliefs, which are good in their own right. Second, because beliefs often affect actions, our intellectual character has a pervasive influence on what we do. As Christian author Philip Dow notes, “If you are... tempted to think that intellectual character has little to do with practical Christian living, try loving your neighbor as yourself while practicing intellectual hastiness. It can’t be done.” Third, consider the questions that today’s thoughtful Christian must address – questions at the intersection of faith, politics, science and justice. Such questions share this in common: They are *difficult* questions. We won’t think well about them without intellectual care, perseverance and humility. To the extent that an education of mind and heart seeks to produce graduates who think well about such matters, it must seek to produce intellectually virtuous graduates. Only if it does so will Whitworthians be prepared to honor God, follow Christ, and serve humanity.

2015 ALUMNI AWARD Winners

Each year, Whitworth alumni nominate classmates to receive the university's alumni awards, and those nominations are reviewed by a committee of staff, faculty and alumni. This year's awards were presented at the Homecoming Reunion Weekend celebration on Oct. 3. The university is pleased to honor the following four recipients of the 2015 Alumni Awards.

ALUMNI MIND & HEART AWARD

Participation in Whitworth's Central America Study and Service Term changed the life of the **Rev. Leslie Vogel**. While in Central America, Vogel, '79, encountered courageous people who were facing life-altering situations. Their discipleship amid great suffering changed the way Vogel interpreted the Bible, and led her to study at San Francisco Theological Seminary and to work with refugees in the Bay Area before serving in El Salvador from 1985-93. In 2013, Vogel was reappointed a mission co-worker for the Presbyterian Mission Agency, this time to Guatemala. Today, she serves with the Protestant Center for Pastoral Studies in Central America. Alongside Guatemalan colleagues in this organization's Intercultural Encounters Program, Vogel hosts U.S. groups that seek to engage in mutual service, dialogue and reflection with Central American Christians. Her many Whitworth mentors helped her to see that feeling compassion and working for justice go hand-in-hand, and the search for compassion and justice is an integral ingredient in a life of evangelism and social justice. *Please see AfterWord on page 34 to learn more about Vogel's work.*

ALUMNI SERVICE TO WHITWORTH AWARD

For nearly 20 years, as a member of the Whitworth Auxiliary, **Georgene (Summerson) Patten**, '50, has been helping to plan for a lifetime. Patten has served as vice president and president and on numerous auxiliary committees, and she knows the importance of preparing the way for future Whitworthians. She helped to establish the Whitworth Auxiliary Endowed Scholarship, which honors the auxiliary's 100-year anniversary, from 1915-2015, and she also established a scholarship at Whitworth that honors her late husband, Les, '50, and the institution that brought them together and helped them form values that were the basis for many of the blessings they enjoyed. Patten says, "My hope is that I will always be passionate about Whitworth and its mission of educating minds and hearts."



(L-R) Patten, Vogel, Beck A. Taylor, Maloney

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

Since 1994, **Dr. David Maloney**, '77, has served in Seattle on the faculties of the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center and the University of Washington. Maloney is an expert in leveraging the targeted power of the immune system to design anti-cancer therapies. He was instrumental in creating the first antibody-based cancer drug on the market, which transformed treatment of certain leukemias and lymphomas. Used in treating more than a million people, this drug has improved or saved the lives of countless patients. Maloney has also helped develop a gentler pre-transplant regimen that has enabled many more patients to take advantage of the lifesaving potential of blood-stem-cell transplantation. Reflecting on his Whitworth experience, he notes, "I think it is important to see that you can come out of a small university and still be competitive in the best medical or graduate schools."



RECENT ALUMNI AWARD

Brittany Hilker, '07, moved to Ouanaminthe, Haiti, in 2009 to volunteer at an orphanage run by the nonprofit Danita's Children. Six years later, after what was supposed to be a one-year experience, Hilker and her two adopted daughters call Haiti their home. In 2013 she helped found and direct Reimagine Haiti, where she ran an inpatient malnutrition

center with 17 staff members who, alongside community leaders, addressed life-threatening problems in children and their families. In 2015, she returned to Danita's Children to serve as director of its malnutrition center. Hilker says, "At the end of my time at Whitworth, I realized that the Core classes I sometimes dreaded, the talk of worldview, and the Christ-in-culture conversations finally made sense. I would not be where I am today if it weren't for my experience at Whitworth."

Visit www.whitworth.edu/whitworthtoday to learn more about the stories of the 2015 Alumni Award winners.

Class Notes

2010s

2010 Amy Lynde married **Pat Absalonson** on July 13, 2014. **Giselle Stone** sailed on her 34-foot sloop, *Sound Discovery*, with her boyfriend, Cliff, from Alaska to Mexico. They plan to cruise through the Panama Canal and sail to the East Coast of the United States and across the Atlantic. Giselle has been writing short stories for her boating blog and for small sailing publications.

2011 Andrea Glover graduated from the University of Edinburgh's School of Social & Political Science, in Scotland, with a master's in social work. She is currently employed as a social worker for the City of Edinburgh Council.

Amy Burkholder married **David Holland** on July 25, in Cambria, Calif.

Luke J. Meininger is a fourth-year medical-school student at Creighton University, in Omaha, Neb. He is also in the United States Army Reserves.

Kari A. Olson graduated with a master of divinity degree and The Gerald R. Johnson Memorial Award in Speech Communication in Ministry at Princeton Theological Seminary's 203rd commencement ceremony. She was ordained as a pastor in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) on July 27 and recently began serving as pastor at Hope of Christ Presbyterian Church, in Summit Hill, Pa. **Chuck Pierce** recently earned his master's degree in organizational leadership from Gonzaga University. **Stephanie K. Wiley** is serving with Africa Inland Mission at Rift Valley Academy, in Kijabe, Kenya, as a choir and music teacher.

2012 Rebecca Hargis graduated with a master's in social work from Eastern Washington University and began her career at Seamar Community Health Clinic as an integration specialist. Her job involves combining mental health and social services with primary care. **Catherine (Cook) Tobey** graduated with a master of divinity degree at Princeton Theological Seminary's 203rd commencement ceremony.

2013 Abby L. Richardson graduated in May with a master of arts in teaching from the University of Portland. She now teaches science and math at South Salem High School, in Salem, Ore.

2014 Josie Camarillo married **Tom Congdon** on June 20 in Newport, Wash. Whitworth Professor of Communication Studies Mike Ingram officiated. Matt and **Becky Prior**, '04, were the photographers. The wedding party included **Daniel Gordon**, '17, **Riley Connolly**, '15, **Caleb Drechsel**, '15, **Raeann Hutson**, '13, **Amy Roth**, '14, and **Jennifer Beattie**, '14. **Alanna Panter**, '15, coordinated the day. Others in attendance included **David**, '87, and **Becky (Williams) Congdon**, '88, and **Will Williams**, '53, among other family and friends. **Lauren (Roberts)** married **Josiah Hunter** on June 13.

DEBUTS

2011 a girl, Danika, to Seth and **Alyssa (Hood) Burbank**, June 29, 2013

2011 a girl, Alexis Grace, to **Kate (Schmedake)** and **Henry Williams**, April 10

DEPARTURES

Sarrah A. Powers, '14, died March 29. **Nicole L. Theis**, '14, died June 9.

Luke Beardemphl, '16, died May 22 from recurrent Hodgkin's lymphoma. At Whitworth he majored in pre-med and biophysics, planning to pursue a career in radiology. Although his time at Whitworth was brief, Luke was known for his abiding faith and for making strong relationships across campus and in the Duvall Hall community.

2000s

2001 Jennifer (Shafar) Allen is a missionary in Johannesburg, South Africa, where she lives with her husband, David, and her children, Bethany and Max.

Chris B. Foster is a top independent advisor with LPL Financial, recently completing his 14th year in business with management of more than \$100

Save the date!

HOMECOMING OCT. 7-9, 2016

Make plans to celebrate with us at Homecoming 2016! All alumni and their families are invited to return to campus Oct. 7-9 for Homecoming 2016. Members of the classes of 1956, '66, '76, '86, '96, 2006, and 2011 will celebrate their milestone reunions. Interested in helping to plan your class's celebration? Contact alumni@whitworth.edu.

million. **Buz Hollingsworth** is the interim principal at Franklin Elementary, in Spokane. **Anna C. Jennings** traveled to Botswana, Africa, last spring to spend time with the Naro bushmen tribe in the Kalahari Desert.

2002 Tyana (Day) Kelley is a birth and postpartum doula, as well as a childbirth educator. She has begun a master's program in strategic communication at Washington State University. Tyana and her husband, Ryan, and their twins have relocated to Snohomish, Wash.

2004 Karen (Morgan) and Tyler Van Haaften completed a three-month road trip around the U.S. and Canada. They recently moved to Denver.

2005 Chelsea Globe received a master of divinity degree from Seattle University's School of Theology & Ministry in June 2014. Four months later she was called to serve as pastor to Christ Lutheran Church, in Federal Way, Wash. She was ordained as a minister of word and sacrament in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in November 2014. **Margaret Jones** married **Greg Strite** in August 2008.

2006 Jenna Williams married **Karl Dynes** on May 10. **Maren Haynes** married **Michael Marchesini**, '07, on July 25, in Bozeman, Mont. Whitworth alumni in their wedding party included **Hannah Kimball-Fuller**, '06, **Emily Wirth**, '06, **Clinton Lipscomb**, '07, **Galen Sanford**, '08, and **Dane Ueland**, '09. **Michelle (Van Belle) Moon** graduated in June with a master's degree in education from the University of Washington. **Kadyn K. Schmautz** serves as a graphic designer with 100 Fold Studio, a nonprofit architecture firm that equips and sends architects to serve in missions around the world. **Sara A. Warr** lives in Tacoma, Wash., and is working as a certified nurse midwife, delivering babies at Joint Base Lewis McChord.

2007 Erin Whitney married **Fred Siebert** July 26.

2008 Amanda Smith married **Troy Hulin** in Sandy, Ore., June 27.

2009 Thomas Robinson married **Laura Rooper**, '10, July 11, in Cannon Beach, Ore.

DEBUTS

2001 twins, a girl, Addison Joy, and a boy, Jace Anthony, to Alan and **Amanda (Bierlink) Baerlocher**, Dec. 19, 2014

2001 a boy, Colton, to Matt and **Erin (Johnson) Camper**, March 23, 2014

2001 a girl, Bree Jessie, to Danny and **Julia (Colgan) Cruzen**, Feb. 26, 2014

2001 a boy, Grant Robert, to Bobby and **April (McIlhenny) Heuseveldt**, April 26

2001 a girl, Gwendolynn Wendie, to Jolen and **Buz Hollingsworth**, † Aug. 25, 2014

2001 a girl, Elise, to Jeffrey and **Tara (Coe) McRitchie**, July 18, 2012

2001 a girl, Hollister Aurora, to Matthew and **Gisela (Thomas) Quick**, May 9, 2014

2001 a girl, Esme Ruth, to Brent and **Erin (Benson) Raska**, July 24

2001 a boy, Isaac Nuechterlein, to **Joel and Katherine (Nuechterlein) Robnett**, '02, Oct. 25, 2012

2001 a boy, Clark Andrew, to **Joel and Katherine (Nuechterlein) Robnett**, '02, Sept. 3, 2014

2001 a boy, Lorenzo Massimo, to **Rochell (Lamica) and Joshua Salina**, May 26

2001 a girl, Madelyn, to **Jeremiah and Kristin (Allison) Webster**, Oct. 28, 2013

2002 a girl, Hazel Camille, to Joseph and **Kimmie (Read) Fink**, May 17

2002 a boy, Keadyn, to **Abby (Hodges) and Ryan Gackenhaimer**, Sept. 30, 2014

2003 a girl, Adaline Leigh, to **Adam Roberts and Katherine Burleigh**, '04, Sept. 25

2004 a girl, Hope Eden, to **Joshua and Megan (Lobb) Harrison**, '06, May 23, 2013

2004 a boy, Luke Thomas, to **Amy (Potratz) and Darren Indermill**, June 10

2004 a boy, Crosby Davis, to **Blake and Kaylin (Jones) Pratt**, Sept. 3, 2014

2005 a boy, Elijah, to **William and Christina (Bumgarner) Gaines**, '06, Jan. 7, 2013

2005 a girl, Elizabeth, to **William and Christina (Bumgarner) Gaines**, '06, Jan. 16

2005 a boy, Cale Andrew, to **Peter and Katie (Hastings) Johnson**, March 11, 2014

2005 a girl, Lily Ynez, to **Heather (Stout) and Greg Svanidze**, '06, Jan. 21

2005 a girl, Ella Rose, to Matt and **Kelly (Renner) Yarkosky**, Jan. 2

2006 a girl, Makenna Michelle Kalea, to **Rebecca (Karste) and Christopher Ahsing**, '07, July 10

2006 a girl, Abigail Elena, to Rachel and **Christopher Brown**, April 29

2006 a boy, Kittridge, to Jonathan and **Allison (Oyster) Cummings**, June 28

2006 a boy, Gregory, to **David and Annie (Grayson) Lillard**, March 9

2006 a boy, Greyson, to Brian and **Amanda (Larson) Monger**, April 23, 2014

2006 a boy, Evan Elijah, to Alexander and **Heidi (Dole) Myers**, June 10

2006 a girl, Scarlett, to Clint and **Carly (Dallago) Piper**, March 29, 2012

Attend a Whitworth event!

Events for Whitworthians are taking place across the country throughout the year, and we would love to see you. Visit connect.whitworth.edu for more information.

2006 a girl, Georgia Scout, to Christine and **Joel Stenberg**, Jan. 15, 2014

2006 a girl, Stella Jane, to Christine and **Joel Stenberg**, Aug. 15

2006 a girl, Logan Monroe, to **Jordan and Whitney (Murphy) Tampien**, April 23

2006 a boy, Bradley, to Adam and **Erica (Vonk) Van Duyn**, Nov. 27, 2014

2006 a boy, Adam James, to Scottie and **Erin (Skjelstad) Williams**, June 24

2007 a girl, Sloane Ivy Hampton-Stocker, to **Luke Stocker and Delynn Hampton**, '08, April 17

2009 a boy, Ellis Jack, to **Jessica (Toews) and Matthew Benscoter**, June 12

2009 a girl, Cecilia Jade, to Star and **Thomas Ryan**, Sept. 9, 2014

1990s

1991 Barbara (Klava) and Robert Wilson now have two sons in college. Gunnar is at Baylor University, and Garrett was recruited to play soccer at Gonzaga University.

1992 Katherine (Worthington) Haworth worked for the U.S. Air Force for 18 years. She now lives in South Carolina with her husband and 13-year-old son after living in Washington, California, Nevada and Italy. **Cara Keller** married **James True** on July 11.

1993 Darrin M. Dennis was accepted to the master's program at Northwestern. He will graduate in 2017 with a master in clinical professional counseling. **Ryan Leonard** is working in Spokane in the circulation department of *The Spokesman-Review*, after 14 years with Pitney Bowes. He is an active Freemason, Scottish Rite Mason and El Katif Shriner.

1998 Stephanie (Peterson) Miyamoto and her husband, Hideomi, are celebrating 15 years of marriage as well as the birth of their long-awaited baby boy this year. Stephanie has found fulfillment for the past 17 years as an elementary school teacher, and now she is excited about her new role as a stay-at-home mother to their son.

1999 Nola-Gene (Bell) Byrd is now certified in perianesthesia nursing and recovery-room residency. She works at St. Clare Hospital, in Lakewood, Wash. Nola also serves as a faith community nurse at her church, First Presbyterian, in Puyallup, Wash. Her twin sons just started the seventh grade and hope to be Pirates one day. **Phillip Harrington** married Melissa Stephenson on June 27. Whitworth alumni in attendance included **Amy (Ritter) Williams**, '99, **Elizabeth (Rodman) Haslet**, '99, and **William Harrison**, '99. The Rev. **Christiane Lang Hearlson** is one of 85 women doctoral students nationwide to receive a Philanthropic Education Organization Scholar Award from the P.E.O. Sisterhood. Christy is also the recipient of a Louisville Institute Dissertation Fellowship, which supports the final year of dissertation writing for doctoral students researching North American Christianity.

DEBUTS

- 1994** a girl, Sydney Lauren, to **Tiffany (Turner)** and **Bill Brooks**, Aug. 14
1996 a girl, Savannah, to Jason and **April (Jackson) DeZell**, Feb. 24, 2014
1997 a boy, Isaac, to Ryan and **Holly (Brown) Vittetoe**, May 30, 2014
1998 a boy, Leo Kaiji, to Hideomi and **Stephanie (Peterson) Miyamoto**, March 11
1998 a girl, Maya Claudia Rother-Rice, to Patti Rother and **Sarah Rice**, Sept. 2

DEPARTURES

Catherine (Mitchell) Heimbigner, '91 MAT, died May 22. **Emily G. Bradford, '98**, died Aug. 2. **Kelly Williamson Padgham, '99**, died Sept. 20. Kelly earned her J.D. from Gonzaga University, and, after passing the bar, went on to serve the Spokane community by practicing family law. She served on the board of directors for The Arc of Spokane and the Greenhouse Community Center. She also volunteered for the Spokane County Volunteer Lawyers Program.

1980s

1980 Bonnie Mercer had her first children's picture book, *A Wheel Rainbow*, published. It is based on a story that her daughter told her more than 30 years ago about playing with a rainbow with wheels.

1981 Psycho Suko has traveled to 30 countries painting essential motifs of culture. His website is sukoartsy.deviantart.com.

1982 Steven P. Richards recently began a new career working as a case manager with homeless families, helping them with resources and services that, over time, help them to become self-sustaining.

1984 David Ingraham completed a bicycle ride during the summer of 2015 to raise awareness and help for translation and transformation in Papua New Guinea. For more information, visit pedalsforpng.blogspot.com.

1986 Jennifer Wilcox Cummins was called as pastor to Tortolita Presbyterian Church, in Tucson, Ariz. **James Deal** has switched Presbyterian denominations after more than 25 years of service as an ordained Presbyterian minister. He has left the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) for the Covenanting Order of Evangelical Presbyterians. Jim remains pastor of the church he has served since 2000, formerly Eastmont Presbyterian Church, now Faith Presbyterian Church of East Wenatchee. **Clifford S. Feigenbaum** was named one of the Top 100 People in Trustworthy Business Behavior in 2014 by Trust Across America. **Yvette (Madsen) Nichols** continues her work as a registered nurse. She and her husband, Carl, enjoy being home in the Northwest in their free time. Both of their sons are serving in the U.S. Navy.

1989 Sean G. Barrett returned to the U.S. after two years with NATO in Belgium. He was selected to attend the U.S. National War College at the National Defense University. Sean began the university's 10-month master's-degree program, which is a senior-level course in national security strategy to prepare future military and civilian leaders. In May, **Kevin J. Peterson** finished his doctoral program at Washington State University, earning an Ed.D. His dissertation was a study of Washington state elementary school principals in the area of mindful-instructional leadership. He is a principal in the Mead School District, having moved from Midway Elementary to Evergreen Elementary for the 2015-16 school year.

DEPARTURES

Daniel E. Mortlock, '80, died April 7. **Philip S. Pannell, '80**, died Sept. 17 after a seven-year battle with cancer. Philip took great pride in his work as a clinical psychologist after graduating from the Fuller Theological Seminary

The Privilege of Hearing Alumni Stories

Danielle Openiano, '17



Last summer I was one of 16 Whitworth students nationwide working with the Alumni Discovery Project, and I had the unique opportunity to serve in my hometown as a student ambassador to alumni in the Greater Seattle area. We interviewed 416 Whitworth alumni; since the start of the project, in 2013,

30 student ambassadors have heard the stories of nearly 1,100 alums from the classes of 1946 to 2015 in hour-long conversations.

The Discovery Project is an intentional way for Whitworth to serve its students and alumni, providing a direct link for alums to offer input on the university's past, present and future. As I listened, many stories of how Whitworth shaped these alumni stirred my deeply held emotions, and it was inspiring to hear from alums who continue to reflect on the values they learned on campus. Just as significant, I had the privilege of hearing concerns that alums shared. No matter the tellers' experiences, it was important that these messages were being heard; I was thankful to be the one who relayed them back to the university.

When the university is able to connect students and alums, it can understand more fully how to serve current and future generations of students. Listening to these alums' life stories taught me a great deal about life. For alumni to share their stories is beneficial not only to the university, but also to current students who struggle or thrive on campus today.

If you're invited to participate in a Discovery interview in the future, I encourage you to accept the invitation. I guarantee it will make a difference – if not for you, if not for the university, then certainly for the student you meet. Simply by being a part of this project, I've learned so much about Whitworth, myself, and what I hope for in my own future.

To learn more about the Alumni Discovery Project, visit www.whitworth.edu/discoveryproject.

School of Psychology. He was a founder of Rose City Center and was honored for his years of service on its board of directors. **Libby (Levine) Avnet, '81**, died Nov. 17, 2014. Libby traveled throughout Europe and Israel after she retired, in 1977. She finished her education, graduating *cum laude* and receiving an honorable mention in the 1981 edition of *Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities*. She served as a volunteer at Spokane's Sacred Heart Medical Center for 17 years. **Mary June Bocksch Hertel, '82 M.Ed.**, died April 9 after a battle with cancer. Mary June was able to travel the world and even spent her 70th birthday in China teaching art to children with disabilities. She is survived by her children, **Brian, '82, Donald, '88, Kenneth, '92, Karen Jose, '86, and Linda Mega, '84, '97 M.Ed.**, among others. **Robert B. Mills, '82 M.Ed.**, died April 14. Robert worked in the Spokane County Clerk's Office for 25 years. He was a founding member of Daybreak Youth Services, and he served on the boards of Habitat for Humanity and Caritas Outreach Ministries and on the vestry of St. David's Episcopal Church. **Donald K. Ratliff, '82**, died June 22. **Wayne R. Redmond, '82**, died Jan. 11, 2010. **Frederick Utter, '84**, died Feb. 28. **Sally Jane (Phillips) Hamon, '85 M.Ed.**, died June 20. **David A. Henry, '85**, died Sept. 2. David served as a lieutenant in the U.S. Army before becoming a teacher in the Spokane Public School district for 35 years. He also managed his family's tree-farm business. David is survived by his wife, sister, **Daisy Chapman, '60**, and daughter, **Carolyn Cary, '97, '04 M.Ed.**, among others. **Robert T. Jewett, '89**, died Aug. 28. After graduating from Whitworth with a degree in geology, Bob was a geologist for Ramrod Gold, later running his own assay lab. He began a decorative-rock business close to his home. Bob is survived by his sister, **Christine Alstead, '82**, among others. **Brian Senter, '89**, was killed in an auto-pedestrian accident in Walla Walla on Oct. 25. Brian, a drama teacher at Walla Walla High School, was hit by a car. He is survived by his wife, **Mary (Reese, '88)**, and his four children.

1970s

1971 Joan (Elsom) Polzin, '88 M.Ed., retired from Spokane Public Schools as an elementary teacher. Now she owns LegalShield, a business that gives families and businesses access to the justice system.

1972 Ricardo Bravo is an attorney with Ricardo Bravo, L.L.C., a board member of Goodwill of the Central Savannah (Ga.) River Area, and president-chair of the nonprofit Greater Augusta Partnership for Literacy. He is a past president of the Martinez-Evans Rotary Club, a trustee of the Georgia Rotary Student Program, and literacy chair for District 6910.

1973 Caryl Hurtig Casbon published her first book of spiritual poetry, *The Everywhere Oracle: A Guided Journey through Poetry for an Ensouled World*, after a lifetime of teaching and working in interfaith ministry. Her book is available on Amazon. **Timothy R. Lickness** became an adjunct professor of law at Trinity Law School, in Santa Ana, Calif., after retiring from the full-time practice of law. Trinity is a Christian law school dedicated to providing a legal education with a biblical perspective.

1977 Diane Muller was elected Teacher of the Year in her school district in 2014 and finished her 38th year of elementary teaching in June. Her career began with teaching third grade and wound through music and physical education, gifted and talented, second grade, fourth grade, kindergarten, and back to PE. Diane is now a flower designer for Flowers by Hansen, in Kalispell, Mont.

1978 Donna (Crain) King is the newly appointed president of the National Panhellenic Conference and Sigma Kappa.

1979 Robert A. Donin earned an M.P.A. with a specialty in health services administration from the University of Southern California.

DEPARTURES

Joan Bickerstaff, '70, died Aug. 17. **Hazel (Wenberg) Riley, '70, '72 M.Ed.**, died June 15. Hazel served in Spokane as a teacher at Rogers High School and developed and directed the SCOPE program for underachieving students at North Central High School. She later became an administrator and counselor at Shaw Junior High. Hazel enjoyed traveling and spending summers at Priest Lake, Idaho. **Alfred J. Thomas, '70**, died Oct. 8, in Spokane. While growing up, Alfred lived within a block of Yankee Stadium and had a chance to meet Babe Ruth. He lived out his dream of becoming a pilot when he served in the Korean War, spending his 23-year career with the Air Force. **Mildred E. Tremblay, '70**, died May 6. **Tryphosa (Litwin) Wright, '70**, died Aug. 25, in Spokane. **Jesse Kennison, '71 M.Ed.**, died July 30. **Willard G. Pennell, '71**, died June 4, in Spokane. Willard worked for the Federal Bureau of Investigation and for Pacific Northwest Bell Telephone Company. He donated more than 25 gallons of blood to the INBC blood bank and was honored as Senior Citizen of the Year. Willard is survived by his daughter, **Connie Christilaw, '77**, among others. **Gloria J. Saccomanno, '71**, died July 1, 2014. **Beverly (Doolittle) Floch, '76**, died April 28. **Joel F. Alsgaard, '77**, died May 31. During Expo '74, Joel directed a yearlong weekly TV show at KSPS in Spokane that featured news, events and entertainment regarding the event. He was a talented musician who played guitar professionally and began composing minuets at age three. He is survived by his sister, **Catherine, '76**, among others.

1960s

1960 Ranko Iwamoto is the author of *Purity and Power: The Spirit of a Female Samurai*. **Roberta (Patterson) Nicholson** is enjoying teaching quilting for Simi Valley Adult School, in California.

1961 Michael G. Austin fondly remembers being an editor of *The Whitworthian* and helping bring presidential candidate John F. Kennedy to campus, despite objections from administrators. **Chet B. Gean** published his book, *Pass the Peace: A New Paradigm for Christian Community*. **Gail (Schlichtig) Janes** continues to create artwork and exhibits regularly in shows. She has won a number of awards for her work. **Priscilla C. Small** attended the 2015 International Congress of Phonetic Sciences in Glasgow, Scotland. **Douglas N. Warne** continues to serve his Scandinavian community and education. He is on several scholarship committees, including that of a local Rotary club. Doug is one of six elected governors of the Sons of Norway Foundation, which awards yearly grants and scholarships.

1962 Stephen T. Davis is publishing a new book with Baylor University Press titled *After We Die: Theology, Philosophy, and the Question of Life after Death*. He received his M.Div. from Princeton Theological Seminary and his Ph.D. from Claremont Graduate University.

1966 Ann (Maddux) Buri retired from Spokane Public Schools after being a teacher for 32 years. **David H. Howard** retired in 2009 after a long career in journalism. He splits his time between homes in Oregon and Arizona. Dave is also working on another book. **Jeanne (Reynolds) Rich** writes plays and makes puppets for a community church and a children's puppet ministry program. **Cindi-Pauline (Schloming) Wolfe** retired from her career as a high school English teacher in June 2006; she worked for Woodland School District, in Woodland, Wash. She is now a member of the Vintage Chevrolet Car Club of America and is active in the Girl Scouts.

1968 Kim and Christine (Sacco) Williams, '70, spent time in Albania in 2014 teaching English and discussing faith with university students. They hope to return to that country in 2016.

DEPARTURES

Janette (Burkhart) Mills, '60, died June 23. **Les Nygren, '60, '71 M.Ed.**, died June 10. **Ray D. Bisping, '61**, died Dec. 13, 2000. **Dwight Paul Leitch, '61**, died Nov. 21, 2014. Paul was an active member of the Sherborn, Mass., community, serving on several town committees and boards, as a deacon at Pilgrim Church, and as a member of the Sherborn Lions Club. He was a world traveler and a retired analyst from the U.S. Army Soldier Systems Center. **Charlotte (Schmutz) Mills, '61**, died June 25. Char worked at Hewlett-Packard in Spokane and served in various volunteer positions. She chaired the board of Caritas Ministries and served on the board of Habitat for Humanity. She was ordained a deacon in the Episcopal Church in 2010. **Marshall Reynolds, '61**, died Sept. 23, 2012. **Donald E. Boyk, '62 M.Ed.**, died Aug. 10. Don had a long career in education, serving in many teaching, principal and administration positions. He was a member of the National Association of Secondary School Principals for 29 years and was a founding member (in 1954) of the Davenport Road Knights Car Club. **Muriel (Row) Rossing, '62 MAT**, died June 13. Muriel taught social studies at Spokane's Lewis & Clark High School, where she later became the girls' counselor, retiring at age 70. She also served as a long-term substitute, as an advisor of Future Teachers of America, and as an active member of Delta Kappa Gamma. **Glenn L. Ahrens, '63**, died March 26. **Barbara (Shepard) Black, '63**, died April 30. In high school, Barbara was head cheerleader, homecoming queen, and student of the year. She worked at Ye Olde Curiosity Shop, in Seattle, and she was a member of the Free Methodist Church, where she served as a childcare volunteer. She is survived by her husband, **Lawrence, '64**, among others. **James E. Marsh, '63**, died April 2. Jim served in the Vietnam War and earned many military decorations. He was an active member of the Peru Grace Brethren Church, in Indiana, serving as a deacon for many years. Jim also served the Conservative Grace Brethren Fellowship of Churches as secretary of the National Foreign Missions Panel. **Norma Jean (Ceaser) Melone, '63**, died May 5. **Margaret (Freeborg) Hillman, '64**, died May 13. Margaret served as activities director at Port Townsend High School for more than a decade. She was an accomplished pianist who served on the Young Life work crew for several years, taught junior high and high school, and, after retirement, continued to serve local youth and teachers. **Linda (Peters) Morris, '64**, died April 11. Linda met her husband, Carl, when she moved to San Diego to accept a teaching position. After teaching for several years in Poway, Calif. she became a homemaker. Linda enjoyed visiting with friends and neighbors, dancing, bridge, gardening and traveling. **Robert G. Sharp, '65**, died July 24. Bob taught U.S. and Russian history at Eastfield College, in Dallas, for 41 years. He received outstanding teacher awards from Eastfield and the University of Texas. He also volunteered as a mentor to athletes and coaches at Whitworth, Rogers and North Central High Schools, in Spokane. **William C. VanderWal, '65**, died Aug. 12. **Frances (Choate) Carlson, '66 M.Ed.**, died June 24. **Ronald N. Heiter, '68**, died July 29. Violet (Stueckle) Scott, '68, died May 15, 2014. **Gerald A. Davis, '69 M.Ed.**, died Sept. 7. Jerry taught and worked for Spokane Public School District 81 for 31 years, working at six schools in intermediate grades and as a special reading or resource teacher. He spent 22 years at Willard Elementary. He was a longtime member of The Dukes Auto Club and attended Spokane's First Presbyterian Church. **Jim B. Morlan, '69**

Alums Partner in Camping and Retreat Ministry

By Josh Cleveland, '01



Together, Dave and Christie (Hinman) Saugen, both '99, embody servant-leadership in their ministry, work and family life.

Since February 2015, Dave has served as the executive director at Tall Timber, in Leavenworth, Wash. He is joined in this family ministry by Christie and their children, Serenity, Micah and Kyler. The Saugens have a history in many roles at Tall Timber dating back to the late 1980s. Whitworth has also enjoyed a long relationship with Tall Timber, going back to the early '80s, when Stan, '75, and Becky (Dyck, '77) Fishburn began their

ministry there. As alums who experienced the significance of Jan Term studies there, the Saugens are excited to welcome students to Jan Term courses taught there by theology professors Jerry Sittser and Jonathan Moo.

"Camp is where so many people are shaped profoundly for life because of Jesus," Dave says. "I love being part of a missional arm for the church that helps members of the Body of Christ remember who they are without the distractions of everyday life."

They credit Sittser, **Jim Edwards, '67**, Roger Mohrlang, Ron Frase, Jim and Linda Hunt, '78 MAT, and the Krista Foundation, as well as their experiences on the Central America Study & Service Program, as key forces in their formation, instilling in them the firm belief that "service is a way of life."

"We draw regularly on the diverse education we received at Whitworth," they say. "The base it provided shapes both of us today and will continue to do so into the future."

With gratitude, Dave and Christie say, "We are thrilled to be doing the thing we love: something that shapes people profoundly. We would love an opportunity to walk alongside and encourage an interest in camp and retreat service through summer staff and internship opportunities at Tall Timber."

To learn more, visit www.talltimber.org.

Commencement 2016

The Class of '16 will be honored in Whitworth's 126th Commencement exercises the weekend of May 20-22. Visit www.whitworth.edu/commencement to learn more.

M.Ed., died April 24. **Scott Sandygren**, '69, died June 6 of cancer. Scott was dedicated to working with children and adults with special needs and spent many years with Special Olympics, Washington Youth Soccer, and TOP Soccer.

1950s

1951 Robert L. Bruce and his family recently held their 23rd reunion at Seabrook, Wash., near Pacific Beach. His five grandsons, two granddaughters, and three great granddaughters attended. **Ernest B. Gentile** moved from San Jose, Calif., to Fort Sumner, N.M., where he is pastor of The Church on the Hill. **Bill W. Roffler** was a junior high and community college teacher and coach for 38 years. He and his wife, **Jane (Williams)**, recently celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary. **L. Holland St. John** has played tennis throughout his life, and he began running tennis programs more than 25 years ago. To honor Holland, the City of Richland, Wash., recently dedicated The Holland St. John Tennis Courts, the city's new \$1.5 million tennis facility in Howard Amon Park, in his name.

1956 Frances (West) Holdorf's husband of 57 years, Charles, passed away on Palm Sunday. **Joy M. Limburg** retired from teaching the children of missionaries at Faith Academy, in Manila, the Philippines, in 2000, and then returned home to Spokane and became active in her local church. Joy taught the Tuesday-morning women's Bible study for 13-plus years, retiring in 2014. She currently lives in a retirement community in Spokane. **Stanley L. Quade** enjoys gardening his acre in La Habra Heights, Calif., and doing exotic scroll-saw woodwork. He and his son also play tennis three times a week with the National Father and Son Doubles Tournament.

DEPARTURES

John E. Kleinbach, '50, died Aug. 5. **Margaret Baird**, '51, died Dec. 23, 2014. **Robert L. Carpenter**, '51, died Aug. 2, 2013. **Burton Durham**, '51, died May 12, 2014, in Auburn, Wash. **Carmen (Poole) Farley**, '51, died June 27. Carmen appeared in productions in the earliest days of the Spokane Civic Theatre. She became a CPS caseworker for Washington state and served as board president and directed plays for Spokane Civic Theater. She is survived by her husband, **Robert**, '50, and son, **Jon**, '75, among others. **Mark A. Jennings**, '51, died Feb. 2. **Wallace H. Moore**, '51, died Aug. 27. Wally served in the Army during the Korean War. He taught music and directed choirs, bands, and school musicals. He also played in the Okanogan Valley Orchestra and was a member of Tonasket Community Church, where he sang in the choir. He is survived by his wife, **Harlene (Towsley)**, '54. **Walter Bekowies**, '52, died Oct. 19, 2013. **Barbara (Scribner) Johnson**, '52, died April 7. **Edward J. Mitchell**, '52, died Aug. 11. **Howard E. Mitchell**, '52, died March 24. Howard served in World War II and earned many distinguished awards. He helped evacuate 500 airmen from Yugoslavia in 1944. He taught for the School of Business and Economics at Western Washington University and was active in First Presbyterian Church, serving on session and as a deacon. **Kenneth E. Moore**, '52, died May 13. Kenneth, who held the title of "most attractive baby in Spokane County" in 1926, served in the U.S. Army during World War II. He also served as a choir director for more than 70 years and taught math at Spokane's North Central High School and West Valley High School. **Mary Lou (Lannigan) Weinland**,

'52, died July 27. Mary Lou played the organ at her church during her youth and was a starter on the women's basketball team at Whitworth. She was a public health nurse who volunteered for numerous organizations, and she held a pilot's license and was a part of a church choir. **Rachel (Fields) Lake**, '53, died March 29. **Doris C. Wages**, '53, died Aug. 17, in Spokane. Doris's career in elementary education spanned more than 30 years. She served as a school librarian and was a 50-year member of the Spokane Branch of the American Association of University Women. **John C. Webb**, '53, died Sept. 27. Over a 35-year career in education, John was a teacher, vice principal and principal at the high-school level in the Azle, Texas, public school district. After retirement, he worked in adult basic education in the Fort Worth Independent School District for 20 years. **JoEllen (Weir) Jones**, '54, died June 2. JoEllen taught for 31 years in the Mead School District, was an active member of Whitworth Community Presbyterian Church, and was honored with a lifetime membership in the Whitworth Auxiliary. JoEllen is survived by her husband, **Richard**, '57, '60 M.Ed., and children **Jim**, '81, '12 M.Ed., and **Jennifer Rodriguez**, '86. **Beth (Beckelhymer) Stewart**, '54, died Aug. 29 in Shoreline, Wash. Beth was a missionary teacher at Red Bird Mission, in Kentucky, as well as a Bible and Christian-ministry teacher in South Africa and at a Bible college in Rhodesia. She retired to Seattle with her husband and lived in Warm Beach Senior Community. **David L. Voge**, '54, died June 17, in Spokane. David served in the U.S. Army and worked as the office manager and accountant for Brownie Baking Company. He later worked for Jobbers Warehouse, and, after retirement, moved to Holman Gardens Retirement Community with his wife, Betty. **Ernest Wall**, '54, died Sept. 7. Ernie received a double scholarship in football and baseball while attending Whitworth and was also inducted into the Whitworth Hall of Fame. His career included travel as a pharmaceutical rep and medical salesman. Ernie is survived by his wife of 61 years, **Mary (Corpron)**, '54. **Virginia (Willis) Egli**, '55, died Aug. 3. Virginia was an educator for many years in Glendive, Mont. **Bruce A. Burns**, '56, died Feb. 27, in Phoenix. He is survived by his wife, **Sonia (White)**, '58. **Mary (Morgan) Lutz**, '56, died March 13. Mary was an elementary school librarian who taught various grades until she retired. She served as both an elder and a deacon at Northwood Presbyterian Church and was also a member of the Whitworth Auxiliary. Mary is survived by her husband, **William**, '57, '71 M.Ed., and son **Christopher**, '87, among others. **Ronald D. Schoesler**, '56, died Feb. 16. **James Irving Brown**, '57, died Aug. 14. **Marie-Elizabeth (Hooper) Haase**, '58, died July 11, in Bellevue, Wash. Marie taught elementary students in the Yakima and Renton, Wash., school districts. She also worked as an assistant librarian for 32 years. Marie's love for music inspired her to learn the piano, clarinet and viola and to enjoy the Seattle Opera for 49 seasons. **Thomas J. Hansen**, '58, died July 30. Tom served two years as a captain in the U.S. Air Force, stationed at Spokane's Fairchild AFB. He was a general practitioner for 46 years following his internship at Deaconess Hospital. Tom is survived by his wife, **Charlene**, '58, among others. **Bill W. Hillman**, '58, died July 15. For 28 years, Billy was a professor of counseling and guidance at the University of Arizona. He was also a marriage and family therapist for 10 years, and he served as president of the Arizona Association for Marriage and Family Therapy and was an active member of Immanuel Presbyterian Church.

1940s

1948 Betty (Onsum) Graves was at her husband, Gordon's, side when he died at home on Nov. 28, 2014, in Fresno, Calif. She has since moved to Bellingham, Wash.

DEPARTURES

Loretta (Stanford) Felton, '40, died April 3. **Harriet (Aldrich) Crandall, '42**, died July 3. Harriet was a nurse in the U.S. Navy serving at naval hospitals in Seattle and Corvallis, Ore. After World War II, she was an R.N. at Spokane's Deaconess Hospital and at Deer Park Hospital. She was a member of the Order of Eastern Star and the Deer Lake Homeowners Association. **Charles H. Hoyt, '42**, died Sept. 28. He worked as a photographer at Edgewood Arsenal, in Maryland, and then was shipped overseas as a staff sergeant. He worked at Crown Zellerbach for 30 years and produced a number of patents. Charles is survived by his wife of 72 years, **Dolores (Muench), '42**, and their daughter, **Marilyn, '70**, among others. **Ruth (Stueckle) Gwinn, '45**, died April 2 in Seattle. Ruth was in the initial class that graduated from Whitworth College with a registered nursing and bachelor of science degree. She volunteered at Eisenhower Hospital and the Betty Ford Center, in Palm Desert, Calif. **Virginia (Hunt) LaQua, '46**, died March 5. **Barbara (Stidston) Schindler, '48**, died June 10, 2013. **Barbara (Deemy) Burklo, '49**, died Sept. 12. Barbara was a full-time society editor and writer in Los Gatos, Calif., before she began working part time as a correspondent for *The Youngstown Vindicator*, in Columbiana, Ohio. She later became a journalist for the women's pages of *The Santa Cruz Sentinel*, in California. **Darline (Andrus) Penhalurick, '49**, died June 16. Darline taught English and business and later served as a library specialist. She received several awards, and, as a reward for her association with the World Affairs Council of Seattle, she was given a 10-month sabbatical to make a goodwill tour around the world, lecturing in 10 countries. **Margaret E. Williams, '49**, died Sept. 15. Margaret worked for the veterans hospital in Vancouver, Wash., was an active member of the Whitestone-Ellisforde Brethren Church women's group, and was a founding member of the Orthopedic Hospital Guild. She joined the Peace Corps and served in Jamaica with her husband, working as a women's healthcare nurse.

1930s

DEPARTURE

Carmen (Kopsland) Carpenter, '36, died Feb. 26. Carmen was active in community clubs all her life. She played her saxophone in a band and marched in local parades well into her nineties. She also decorated for the Presbyterian Church in Kelseyville, Calif., for many years and entered flower arrangements in the Lake County Fair.

Alum Enjoys 'Slinging Books' in L.A. Venue

by Josh Cleveland, '01



Katie Orphan, '06 – known to many as the only Whitworthian ever to appear on *Jeopardy* – is often the first one in the door at The Last Bookstore, in Los Angeles. With coffee in hand and a background in books, this Whitworth alum is putting her mind-and-heart education to work.

"I get the opportunity to really listen to a lot of the people who come into the store," Orphan says, "and sometimes I may be the only person who stops to hear their story. A lot of my

regulars who come to me for help with books and recommendations end up telling me a lot about their lives – not unlike a bartender. I'm just slinging books instead of drinks," she says.

Orphan has worked for the owner of The Last Bookstore since 2009, before he opened the current bricks-and-mortar shop. She currently serves as the sales and inventory manager.

And she knows books. "Whether [I read them in] Southern Renaissance, with Laura Bloxham, or women-writers courses with Pamela Corpron Parker, my Core classes, or History of Christianity, with Jerry Sittser, Karin Heller and Keith Beebe, I use the texts I read in college to make recommendations regularly," Orphan says. "I answer a lot of the same questions every day, but my favorite inquiry is when people ask for help picking a book."

Equipped with majors in religion and English literature and an M.A. in 19th-century studies from the University of Sheffield, Orphan is well-prepared to help out the confused seeker of books. And she's at the ready to help you, too.

"If Whitworthians who love books and that glorious 'old book' smell are nearby, I certainly hope they'll come by. Just ask for Katie," she says.

Bet she'll already have a recommendation waiting for you.

In Memoriam



Virginia "Ginny" (Warren) Ainley, '49, died on April 8 at age 87. She moved with her family to Spokane in 1940 when her father, Frank Warren, became president of Whitworth College (1940-63); he was Whitworth's 12th and longest-serving president. Ginny majored in sociology at Whitworth, where she met **Charles "Chuck" Ainley, '51**; they married in 1950 and raised three sons, Greg, David and **C. Warren**.

Ginny's obituary stated that she had three loves in her life: her Lord, her family, and Whitworth, and she served all three with a full heart and willing hands. For years, Ginny and her sister, **Joyce Starrett, '45**, welcomed freshmen to campus on opening weekend, particularly those moving into Warren Hall, their father's namesake.

The "Warren girls" were also longtime members of the Whitworth Auxiliary, for which Ginny's Christmas fudge was a hot seller at the group's annual Christmas bazaar, and Ginny supported Whitworth's music, theatre and athletics programs. In 1993, two years before Chuck's death, Whitworth bestowed on Ginny and Chuck the Alumni Service to Whitworth Award.

"Ginny and I shared a special relationship," says President Beck A. Taylor. "I remember that on my first day as president, in July 2010, my very first appointment was to visit with Ginny at her retirement home in Spokane. I wanted to hear firsthand from someone who shared a deep love for Whitworth and who witnessed the leadership of President Frank Warren, her father. Ginny prayed for me that morning, and her words of encouragement and affirmation still echo in my mind. I will miss Ginny deeply."

Ginny is survived by her sister, Joyce Starrett; her sons David (Evelyn) and **C. Warren, '85 (Glenna, '84)**; her grandchildren, Dave (Jill), Nathan (Lindsay), **Stephan, '10 (Corrie)**, Kayla (Chris), Ben (Hannah), **Jared, '12 (Danielle)**, and Kellen; six great-grandchildren; and numerous cousins, nieces and nephews.



Associate Professor Emeritus of Art **Pauline (Anderson) Haas** died on Aug. 14 at age 92. An accomplished and talented artist and teacher, Pauline began her training on scholarship at the Cincinnati Art Academy; she then earned her MFA from Indiana University. She married Garland "Gus" Haas in 1944. Pauline served on the Whitworth art faculty from 1961-85, and Gus was a longtime political science professor at Whitworth. In 2001 Pauline established the Garland "Gus" and Pauline Haas endowment in honor of her husband; the fund supports a visiting artist to the art department and a student scholarship in political science or international studies.

Pauline's paintings are featured throughout the Whitworth campus, including a commissioned pastel triptych in Avista Square of Weyerhaeuser Hall. A 2013 exhibit, *Compulsive Continuation*, in the Lied Art Center, featured new works by Pauline in celebration of her 90th year.

"Pauline often remarked that she could not imagine her life without art," says Professor of Art Gordon Wilson. "She inspired students with her enthusiasm and often found herself working in her studio far into the night after lively interactions with her students. She was my colleague, mentor and friend for nearly 40 years, and it has been a privilege."

Pauline is survived by her daughter, Judith Haas McKeehan; her son, Joe Haas; six grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

Pauline's works from Whitworth's permanent art collection are on exhibit in the Lied Art Center's Cowles Student Gallery through Jan. 29, 2016.

Web extra: To view a selection of Pauline's works and to read Wilson's full tribute to her, visit www.whitworth.edu/whitworthtoday.



Sam Adams, '52, a legendary Whitworth athlete and coach, died on Nov. 13. As a student-athlete at Whitworth, Sam competed in football, basketball, track & field and baseball. In football, he was an NAIA All-America end in 1948, and he set school, conference and national records for receptions and touchdowns. Sam and his college roommate also planted the first Young Life

club in Spokane.

After playing three seasons with the British Columbia Lions of the Canadian Football League, Sam returned to Whitworth, where he served as an assistant coach for football and track; he was named head coach of both programs in 1958. Over seven seasons, he guided the Pirate football team to a record of 47-19-1 and three Evergreen Conference championships. His 1960 team finished 9-0 in the regular season, was ranked fourth in the national NAIA polls, and competed in the semifinals of the NAIA national playoffs. In track & field, he coached several All-Americans and four NAIA national champions, and his teams won four conference titles.

Sam earned a master's in teaching and coached at Whitworth until 1965; he went on to become a faculty member at Washington State University, where he coached football, chaired the master's degree program for athletics administration with a specialty in sport law, and earned a doctorate in physical education.

Each year Whitworth honors Sam's legacy through the Sam Adams Classic track meet and the Sam Adams Young Life Scholarship for student leaders. Sam was inducted into Whitworth's inaugural Heritage Gallery Hall of Fame class in 1990, and he was inducted into the Inland Northwest Sports Hall of Fame in 1989.

Sam and his wife, **Colleen (Pickert), '51**, had a lasting impact on the lives of the young men and women with whom they came into contact, whether through coaching or through Young Life. The Adamses were spiritual mentors, counselors and advisors to hundreds of former Whitworth students. More than 80 of Sam's Whitworth players returned to campus on Oct. 3 to honor him and Colleen at a reunion.

Sam is survived by his wife, Colleen; his children, Debbie, Sam, Jim, and **Steve, '81**; his grandchildren, including **Katie Adams, '15**, and **Drew Adams, '16**; and other family members.



Former trustee, alumna and Whitworth Auxiliary member **Dorothy Mae McLarren, '49**, died on July 15. Dorothy earned a nursing degree from Whitworth, and she served on the board of trustees from 1974-98. She was a tireless promoter of Whitworth and encouraged many young people to enroll. In 1978 Whitworth honored her with the Distinguished Alumni Award. Her faithful service

to the Whitworth Auxiliary began in 2000 and continued until her death. Four of Dorothy's five children as well as two grandchildren graduated from Whitworth.

Dorothy's survivors include her children, **Janis McLarren Caldwell, '80**, **Toni M. Johnson, '79**, **Paul E. McLarren, '76**, **Sandra L. Milotta, '73**; her sons-in-law, **Eric L. Johnson, '85**, and **David Milotta, '74**; and her grandchildren, **Tanya Johnson** and **David Milotta**, both '05.



Samuel H. Moffett, Ph.D., who served as a Whitworth trustee from 1973-77, died on Feb. 9 at age 98. He was a Princeton Seminary historian and author who completed the acclaimed two-volume *History of Christianity in Asia* at age 89. "Sam Moffett had a distinguished career of teaching and scholarship in the service of the church on two continents," says Craig Barnes, president of

Princeton Theological Seminary. "He was a great encourager who touched the lives of thousands of students and was truly a global ambassador for the gospel." Moffett is survived by his wife, Eileen; his youngest brother, Thomas F. Moffett; and numerous extended family members.

Edward Eccles died on Sept. 20. He served as assistant director of the physical plant (now facilities services) from 1980-99. **Mary Ann Guenther** died on Aug. 23. She was a certification specialist in the School of Education for more than 20 years, retiring in 2003. **Henrietta "Thelma" Gunderson** died on May 30. She worked in the registrar's office for 24 years, and retired in 1988. **Theresa Rutter** died on Aug. 28. She worked at Whitworth for 25 years, 20 of which were spent in admissions and financial aid.



Seeking a More Just, Tolerant and Equitable World

By The Rev. Leslie Vogel, '79

What does the LORD require of you but to do justice, to love tenderly, and to walk humbly with your God? Micah 6:8

Born to Presbyterian missionaries serving the Navajo people in northeastern Arizona, I learned early to have compassion for those who are poor, suffering and marginalized. I also learned to ask why such suffering and inequities exist and to seek organized ways to address those causes.

My parents strongly encouraged me to attend Whitworth. I tended to question everything, and they knew that Whitworth was a place where students were expected to grapple with questions about how life issues affected our faith and about how we could live out our faith in a suffering and broken world. I am deeply grateful to Whitworth for enabling and even pushing me to think about Christian commitment, not as something that puts up borders or protective walls around us, but rather as something that broadens, deepens and opens us to the world.

At Whitworth I heard a presentation by students who had recently returned from studying in South America with Associate Professor of Sociology Ron Frase. They described meeting in a hidden room in Chile with a man who had just been released from almost two years of imprisonment and torture under Augusto Pinochet, the U.S.-backed dictator.

Two years later, that very man, Camilo Cortés, visited Whitworth as a guest

speaker. He read Romans 8:18-38 with a heart that knew the sufferings of his country and his people, a people who were still longing and hoping for God's redemption. Some of the seeds of the rest of my life's journey were planted during those two presentations.

While at Whitworth I participated in a semester-long Urban Studies Program in San Francisco; I became active in the campus Hunger Task Force; and I joined "Nutrition 1985," a meal program that focused on the nutritional value and the global impact of the food we ate. These experiences led me to study with Ron Frase on the inaugural Central America Study & Service Term, in 1979.

Having studied only German previously, in Central America I threw myself into studying and practicing Spanish, as well as learning the culture and history. Although my frustrations and loneliness in the first months led me to write in my journal that I would never return to Central America, I gradually became proficient enough in Spanish to engage in conversations about ideas, feelings, hopes and dreams. We encountered refugees from the war in Nicaragua, as well as revolutionary and theological students from other parts of Latin America. Their stories stayed with me, and I was hooked.

After graduating from Whitworth, I returned to Latin America with a Presbyterian Women's global exchange, as an international observer to a Salvadoran

refugee camp in Honduras, and as a teaching assistant for Whitworth's 1984 Central America group.

I continued meeting incredibly faithful, courageous people who were facing life-threatening and life-altering situations. Their committed discipleship amid great suffering transformed the way I read and interpreted the Bible. After completing theological seminary studies, I served for almost eight years in El Salvador, where I engaged in ecumenical pastoral ministries with women and was a Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) mission worker. I served two additional years under Presbyterian mission appointment at Stony Point Center, in New York.

I worked in local ministries and as an interpreter/translator in Arizona while raising my children, Luz Rebeca and Amando. As they were reaching adulthood, I engaged in vocational discernment that renewed my sense of call to Central America.

The Protestant Center for Pastoral Studies in Central America (CEDEPCA) invited me to serve as its Intercultural Encounters Program facilitator; PC(USA) World Mission appointed me as a mission co-worker to fill that position.

I work with a team of Guatemalans to design and facilitate experiences of encounter, reflection, dialogue and mutual service between North Americans and Central Americans, all of whom are seeking a more just, tolerant and equitable world. The participants experience many challenges to their faith; so do I. In many ways, my life's journey has brought me full circle. I am now helping to lead immersion experiences that could change the lives of participants the way mine was transformed as a Whitworth student so many years ago.

Leslie Vogel is the recipient of the 2015 Alumni Mind & Heart Award (see P. 24).

Web extra: To read an article Vogel wrote for The Whitworthian while studying in Central America, visit www.whitworth.edu/whitworthtoday.

THIS IS WHITWORTH



Naji Saker, '16

MAJOR: Chemistry

HOMETOWN: Beaverton, Ore.

WHITWORTH ACTIVITIES:

- Member of the Green Dot Advisory Board (The Green Dot Movement equips students, faculty and staff to help reduce power-based personal violence.)
- Founded the Ch.A.O.S. club (Chemistry and All Other Sciences) and a weightlifting club
- Participant in the Whitworth Summer Science Undergraduate Research Fellowship Program, with Associate Professor of Chemistry Deanna Ojennus
- Four-year competitor in Whitworth track & field, in discus, hammer and shot put; placed three times in the Northwest Conference meet's discus competition

Green Dot provides an open and safe place for people to talk about and address sexual assault and harassment. As Whitworth strives to build a community that honors God, follows Christ, and serves humanity, a big piece is knowing how to serve one another and come together to stand for something bigger than ourselves. Green Dot helps inform people on these issues and gives them the tools to step up in "Red Dot" situations, which can have a life-changing impact.

Looking at the statistics, there are a lot of people we care deeply for who have been affected by sexual assault, and I think all people should be educated on this issue. Green Dot records show that male athletes are the least likely group to attend Green Dot training. As a male athlete, I take it as my duty to help educate my peers because they can have such a big impact on the Whitworth community.

As a member of the Green Dot Advisory Board, I've helped with presentations for residence-assistance training and freshman orientation. I also met with [Athletics Director] Tim Demant about getting student-athletes trained. Sam D'Amelio, '17, and I are now creating a shortened version of Green Dot to present to the athletics teams.

I plan to apply to medical schools this summer, with the goal of becoming an orthopedic surgeon specializing in sports medicine.

For more information about Green Dot, visit www.whitworth.edu/greendot.

WHITWORTH

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PINES TO PROMISE PROJECT

"I know what being in need means. I have also learned that education is the best path out of poverty and can lead me to success."

— Jeff Louissaint, '19

We believe in Jeff's dreams to build his education at Whitworth to eventually help rebuild his home country of Haiti. The Pines to Promise Project offers the assurance that his financial needs will be met through the vision of donors like you.

As students move from learning among the campus pines to fulfilling the promise and potential embodied in each new Whitworth graduate, supporting that journey is what this Pines to Promise Project scholarship initiative is all about.

Learn more at www.whitworth.edu/pinestopromise. Read Jeff's story on pages 10-11, in "Meet the Class of 2019."

